



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Monday
8 March 1993

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Central African Republic

Ministerial Appointees Refuse To Join Cabinet

AB0603161593 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830
GMT 4 Mar 93

[Text] It is probably the beginning of a crisis for Central African Republic's [CAR] government. Prime Minister Enoch Derant-Lakoue's new team is already experiencing some difficulties just 48 hours after its formation. Two ministers close to the former president and independent candidate, David Dacko, have decided not to join the government because they were not consulted. Alain George Ngatoua, who was in Bangui, filed this report to Africa No. 1:

[Ngatoua] Etienne Goyemide, who was appointed the minister of culture, arts, and tourism, and Louis Pape-niah, the minister of transport and civil aviation, who are both from the political group which supported the candidacy of former president David Dacko in the presidential elections, have decided not to join Lakoue's cabinet. David Dacko, who is also the chairman of the Provisional National Political Council of the Republic, the transitional parliament, has already sent a letter to the prime minister informing him of the withdrawal of his two representatives from the second transitional government. This said, misfortune is increasing for a government which has not really begun functioning. The government was hardly formed when Ange Patasse's CAR People's Liberation Movement said that it would not take part in it, followed by the Democratic Alliance for Progress which has slashed (Tafame Rege), its secretary general and number two man in the party, who agreed to occupy the Ministry of Fundamental and Secondary Education. The new prime minister's determination to form a broad-based government might be compromised because the Consultative Group of Democratic Forces, the radical wing of the opposition, is posing as a condition the fixing of a specific date for elections and increasing the membership of the transitional parliament, the Provisional National Political Council of the Republic. [end recording]

Rwanda

Government, Patriotic Front Talks Begin

EA0503215693 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique Rwandaise in French 1115 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Dar es Salaam—The talks between the Rwandan Government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] began this morning, talks which are due to allow the resumption of problem-free negotiations at Arusha. Balthazar Nduwayezu reports:

[Begin Nduwayezu recording] The talks were launched this morning by the prime minister and first vice president of Tanzania, Brother [Ndugu] John Samuel Malecela, in the presence of the representative of the current OAU chairman [words indistinct] and of the

representative of the OAU secretary general [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

For Rwandan Prime Minister Dr. Dismas Nsengiyaremye, fighting cannot achieve a lasting solution to the problem. Only direct and sincere negotiations along with dialogue between Rwandans themselves can lead to a definitive settlement of the conflict. The Arusha negotiations must thus resume rapidly [passage indistinct]; second, [words indistinct] national Army out of the Rwandan Armed Forces and RPF combatants; third, the plan for the return of refugees and their reintegration into the Rwandan social life; fourth, the timetable for the return of war-displaced people to their homes—at present there are about 900,000 displaced people; fifth, the duration of the transition for the broad-based transitional government; sixth, harmonizing the peace agreement with the Rwandan Constitution; and, finally, the signing of the peace agreement [words indistinct].

For Prime Minister Nsengiyaremye, however, in order to further and make easier the implementation of the peace agreement to be signed, the two sides must immediately and [words indistinct] respect the principles provided for in the already-signed protocol agreements. Prime Minister Dismas Nsengiyaremye indicated that the [word indistinct] of the Rwandan Government [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Speaking on the recent resumption of hostilities, the head of the RPF delegation, Colonel Alex Kanyarengwe, for his part indicated that their offensive was not directed against Kigali as certain people might think, but that it was rather a sort of warning, one way to warn [words indistinct]. If we wanted peace, we should respect the already-signed agreements [words indistinct] allusion to the massacres perpetrated in certain regions [words indistinct] in breach of the protocol on the state of law. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Parties Agree to Cease-Fire, Talks

EA0703190093 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique Rwandaise in Kinyarwanda 1700 GMT 7
Mar 93

[Text] As for the news regarding the negotiations between the Rwandan Government delegation and the Rwanda Patriotic Front [RPF] rebels which ended today in Tanzania, we can only say that among the things agreed upon in the final communique signed by the two sides at the end of their meeting was that the war will stop with effect from 9 March at 2400.

They also agreed that the Arusha talks will resume on 15 March. These talks are supposed to reach a peace agreement to be signed at the beginning of April.

Prime Minister Discusses Cease-Fire, Withdrawal

LD0803094293 Paris Radio France International in
French 0630 GMT 8 Mar 93

[Excerpts] A cease-fire agreement was finally agreed upon yesterday in Rwanda by representatives of the

government and of the armed opposition, who held talks in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. [passage omitted]. The principle of the withdrawal of foreign military forces was accepted, but if we judge by the explanations given by Prime Minister Dismas Nsengiyaremye, the least you can say is that there are some ambiguities remaining. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Nsengiyaremye recording] Foreign troops, French troops included, must go. Meanwhile, however, we have decided that an international force must remain. It has been (?notified) that there will be a confidential document. We have decided that some of the French troops will stay and will take care of the protection of foreign nationals in Rwanda. I say that some French troops will have to remain in Rwanda, based in Kigali, to ensure and guarantee the security of foreign nationals. All the decisions made were made after consultations and agreements reached yesterday in which everyone participated. There was no [word indistinct] by any member of the delegation. [end recording]

Zaire

Mobutu Meets Political Groups; Roundtable Set for 9 Mar

AB0503222093 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Excerpts] The roundtable of Zaire's politicians has been scheduled for 9 March in Kinshasa. Before that conference, described as a last chance meeting, the head of state will have a restful weekend. This justifies the departure of the presidential couple this afternoon for Gbadolite. Before leaving for Gbadolite this afternoon, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko continued his contacts with the various Zairian political groups. He received not less than six delegations this morning. Among them was the Bureau of the High Council of the Republic [HCR], led by HCR Chairman Monsignor Monsengwo. [passage omitted]

In order to better understand the importance of these various consultations before the roundtable, the spokesman of the president of the Republic, [Professor Letoundola], here gives us a summary of the contacts the head of state held today.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Can we summarize the consultations held today, or rather the first round of contacts which the president has had with the political groups?

[Letoundola] Indeed, since 2 March to date, the president received in turn about 18 delegations from various political platforms and public institutions. Every invited group was present, except the Sacred Union of the opposition which apologized for not being able to come. They were scheduled to come. Also not present was the Progressive Collective which had wanted us to postpone its audience but this was not possible. To each of these

delegations, the head of state expressed his concerns as head of state, thus, as guarantor of the nation. These concerns can be summed up in three points:

1. The setting up of government of public salvation: The president strongly stressed that this is an action to save the situation in the face of the current crisis.

2. The harmonization of the texts: As the act [not further specified] was not promulgated and the 1967 Constitution was not abolished, it becomes imperative and urgent that we should get down to work in order to have only one text that will be applied to the Republic during the transition period.

3. The third point, which the president stressed, just like the other points, is the elections, the constitutional referendum, and the other elections [passage indistinct].

[Reporter] Professor, it has been noted that the HCR Bureau, represented by Monsignor Monsengwo, was there. Can we believe that there is henceforth a perfect marriage?

[Letoundola] Well, it was a happy thing that the HCR Bureau came today, after its failure to come on the first day of this series of consultations held by the head of state. Anyway, we can say that the meeting was very positive.

[Reporter] Listening to Mr. Letoundola, one gets the impression that, in fact, it is the HCR that is organizing this roundtable.

[Letoundola] We shall not start fighting over who should be in the kitchen and who should be serving. But, what is evident is that the head of state will open the roundtable. It will perhaps be normal that he withdraws after doing that. Then a college of wisemen may be set up—say, for example, one representative for each region—to manage the situation as well as the internal organization of the deliberations. At the end of the deliberations, a report will be presented to the head of state who will approve the results of the deliberations.

[Reporter] Generally, has everybody agreed on this step?

[Letoundola] Generally, we can say that everybody has agreed on this step. Everybody has agreed on the organization of this roundtable scheduled for 9 March.

[Reporter] When will it end?

[Letoundola] When we might have found all the solutions, namely, a new person to form the next government, a single text for the transition period, and a precise timetable for the forthcoming elections.

[Reporter] There is a lot to be done. That can take a lot of time, Professor!

[Letoundola] This may take as long as it could but I think we should have a good job done in, I think, no more than three or four days. [end recording]

Sacred Union To Boycott Roundtable

AB0603211093 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Excerpt] The various contacts that the head of state had during the week have culminated in a meeting of all political leanings being called beginning 9 March 1993. The radical Sacred Union, which refused to go to Nsele, held a meeting lasting four hours today to take a stand on the holding of the meeting of political leaders. Our correspondent, Baba Mwakole, reports:

[Mwakole] The issue of whether or not to participate in the 9 March meeting was the main topic of the plenary session the radical Sacred Union held today. After four hours of discussions and debate, it was decided that the Sacred Union will only attend the meeting scheduled and announced by the High Council of the Republic [HCR]. It will not attend the meeting convened by the head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, on 9 March and for which he has been sampling the opinions of the various political platforms since the beginning of the week.

In the opinion of Nguz a Karl-I-Bond, who will be participating in that meeting, politicians should agree on the choice of a prime minister who will be acceptable to all. This opinion is shared by the supporters of the president and other political platforms that President Mobutu had received at the (Lanset Village).

According to the Sacred Union, however, the only acceptable arrangement is the one which envisages the harmonization of viewpoints for a good cohabitation between Mobutu and Tshisekedi. The radical wing of the opposition thus supports the HCR decision and disapproves of any other arrangements outside that made by the HCR. Tomorrow, the Sacred Union will give a news conference at 1500 GMT during which, it is believed, it will announce a possible alliance with other political platforms. It will also be the occasion to launch a vast program of sensitization of national and international opinion on the seriousness of the crisis that Zaire is going through. All this was discussed at the Sacred Union meeting today. [passage omitted]

Official Returns From Congo After Delivering Message

AB0503221093 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Concerning our compatriots expelled from Brazzaville, Congo, Special Presidential Adviser Gbanda

N'Zanbo Kwatumba returned to Kinshasa late this afternoon from Brazzaville. In the Congolese capital he examined with that country's authorities the causes of and solutions to the accident which claimed the lives of our compatriots at Brazzaville Beach. Our reporter, Sakombi Bakonso, has the details:

[Bakonso] [passage omitted] Mr. Gbanda had left Kinshasa with a message from Marshal Mobutu for his Congolese counterpart, a message he delivered today. The presidential emissary here takes stock of his meeting with the Congolese leader:

[Begin Gbanda recording] I have come as my country's representative to examine the causes for the unfortunate incident that happened to our compatriots here. We held a lengthy working session with a Congolese delegation. We worked as officials in a spirit of openness, sincerity, and frankness. This morning, you accompanied us to the scene of the tragedy and to other places. This means that we transcended the accident that occurred and tried to seek the remote and general causes in order to prevent further incidents. This is because an official should prevent events rather than acting after them. We should not meet one another only when there are unfortunate accidents or incidents. We must also act in such a way that those incidents do not occur again, and I think that this is what I came to do.

As for media interpretations or attitudes, I do not believe that this is actually my concern, but I believe that as an official, what I can tell Zairian and Congolese media is that our African media should learn how to educate the mass rather than cause quarrels. [end recording]

What are the highlights of the (?presidential adviser's) visit to Congo? First, the exchange of views between Congolese and Zairian delegations centered on some major concerns, namely the circumstances that surrounded the accident, what prompted the Zairian citizens to spontaneously swarm into the Embassy of Zaire in Brazzaville on 27 February. Others are the problems linked to the organization of the expulsion and security arrangements, the respect for the procedures in case of expulsion of aliens, problems linked to the quay of the Matadi ferry, and finally the remote and general as well as immediate causes for the migratory flow. The Congolese Government's representatives explained the facts before insisting on the various major points. The Congolese side confirmed to the Zairian delegation that it had counted 147 victims after the accident. The Zairian delegation took due note of the confirmation. [passage omitted]

Kenya

UNHCR Ready To Repatriate Willing Refugees to Somalia

EA0703182493 Nairobi KNA in English 1430 GMT
7 Mar 93

[Text] Mandera, 7 Mar (KNA)—The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Office in Mandera is ready to register all Somali refugees at Mandera Transit Refugee Camp who wish to be repatriated back to Somalia. However, those remaining behind must abide by the laws of the land, failing which they will be prosecuted.

These remarks were made by the Mandera district commissioner (DC), Mr Eliud Parsankul, at a public baraza [meeting] held at the camp. He decried the stone-throwing incident at the NGOs [non-governmental organization] personnel at the camp, and reminded the refugees whatever supplies they were provided with were donations from well-wishers and as such they should not be selective.

The DC noted that most of the relief food given to the refugees was ferried across the border, while others sold it to local markets within the district. He cautioned the refugees' elders to stop practising favouritism in food distribution as this could bring untold suffering to the very young and old.

Mr Parsankul thanked those refugees who voluntarily opted to return to their country. He told them that the UNHCR and the NGOs are ready to provide transport and other facilities required for their initial settlement, adding that non-governmental organisations (NGOs) had started cross-border operations and presently much food, medicine and other infrastructures have been restored in Somalia.

Somalia

Aidid Warns UNITAF of 'Interference'

EA0503203393 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1815 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, chairman of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and the United Somali Congress today at his office received Mr. John Hirsch, the acting American ambassador to Somalia. The acting ambassador delivered a letter replying to the SNA's earlier request. The two discussed ways of strengthening the working relationship between the SNA, the U.S. Embassy, and the Unified Task Force [UNITAF].

Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid told the acting ambassador that the SNA would never accept interference by the UNITAF troops in the internal affairs of Somalia. He said the UNITAF troops had of late made it a habit to interfere in the internal affairs of Somalia. He said this

was against the objectives and promises of the organizations which liberated the country to the Somali people that they would enjoy justice, peace, democracy, and unity, and that they could also manage their political affairs.

Therefore, UNITAF should stop interfering in the internal affairs of the country and also halt its current work to form administrations in the regions and districts controlled by the SNA, saying that this task should be left to the Somali people spearheaded by those organizations which liberated the country. Mr. Aidid also told the acting ambassador that there was a need to enhance the working relationship between the U.S. Embassy and UNITAF, in line with the existing agreements to that end, adding that the SNA had been and would continue to abide by the agreements and the other sides would be blamed for a lack of a good working relationship.

For his part, Mr. John Hirsch, the acting American ambassador to Somalia, said efforts would be made to resolve the problems. [passage omitted]

SNA Spokesman Warns UNITAF Against 'Ugly Acts'

EA0603201593 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1700 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] A spokesman for the Somali National Alliance [SNA] today said that these days, Unified Task Force [UNITAF] has made a habit of perpetuating ugly acts. The spokesman went on to say that UNITAF has been carrying out [word indistinct] and intimidation against the SNA and the Somali people in general by using military force. The UNITAF has started to settle refugees in the country and brought them to Mogadishu and is also trying to disrupt a national reconciliation conference expected to be held on 15 March in Addis Ababa aimed at ending all disagreements amongst the Somali people.

The spokesman said that the SNA perceives the UNITAF actions as an attempt to create bloody confrontation in Mogadishu so as to create an atmosphere conducive to the promotion of its own designs. The UNITAF has employed American nationals of Somali origin to carry out acts that are opposed to the SNA's supporters and their interests. UNITAF troops have been constantly firing on innocent people for no apparent reason, and this has resulted in many deaths and great losses.

The spokesman added that UNITAF has ulterior motives in broadcasting propaganda on Radio Rajo and RAJO newspaper, which the people have named TROUBLE [RABSHO]. Other means, such as vehicles and helicopters, are being used to convey hostile propaganda.

Did UNITAF come to Somalia to create problems and confrontations and to spread hostile propaganda, instead of its known earlier objective of assisting the affected

Somali people? Nobody expected that it would create instability, bloodshed, and confrontation, as can be seen from UNITAF's current actions.

The SNA spokesman advised heads and military officers of UNITAF to cease causing confrontations such as that which occurred in Kismaayo on 22 February.

Aidid Receives PLO Representative 7 Mar

EA0703192793 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the chairman of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and of the United Somali Congress, today at his office met Mr. Kamil Abdallah Gizaz, the PLO ambassador to Somalia. Chairman Aidid and the ambassador discussed the current issues affecting the Islamic world.

Mr. Aidid briefed the PLO ambassador on the myriad problems facing the country and how the Islamic countries were duty-bound to assist Somalia in raising the living standards of its people through health care, nation-building, and reviving culture.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Kamil Abdallah Gizaz, the PLO ambassador to Somalia, delivered a message of greetings from Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO chairman, and the Palestinians. He pledged that he would play a big role in reconciling the Somali people. Acknowledging the problems facing the Somali people, the ambassador made it clear that he would brief heads of the Arab countries on the actual facts about Somalia and urge them to participate in the international efforts aimed at bringing peace to Somalia.

In conclusion, Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid requested the ambassador to convey his greetings to the Palestinian people and Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, the people's chairman, who had been busy finding a just solution to the current problems in Somalia.

Uganda

Cobalt Extraction To Begin Next Year

AB0603155293 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] Kampala, March 6 (AFP) - Uganda will become a major world cobalt producer when fullscale extraction of the metal begins west of the country next year, according to a report by Kasese Cobalt Company (KCC), released Saturday [6 March].

KCC was started in June, last year as a joint venture between the Uganda government and a consortium of foreign companies, to extract cobalt from stockpiles of copper pyrites.

The pyrites accumulated as byproducts from twenty years of copper mining in Kasese, on the foot of the Rwenzori mountains.

Copper mining stopped in 1974 as a result of low prices of the commodity in the world market.

Foreign companies with shares in KCC include Barclays Metal Products of Britain and BGRM of France.

The project has also attracted financing from the European Investment Bank.

The World Bank's Multi-lateral Investment Agency (MIGA) agreed to guarantee risk capital investment injected into the project by private investors.

A Kenyan company, Mapsurvey Ltd, carried out the survey of the pyrites stockpile while Mowlem International of Britain did the drilling which established the pyrites reserves to be nearly one million tonnes containing 1.375 per cent cobalt.

A pilot plant is to go into production before the end of this year and fullscale production is expected next year.

Uganda will earn 50 million dollars annually for at least thirty years from cobalt export.

Multiparty Conference Continues**Opening Statements Viewed**

MB0503190293 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Political observers say prospects for the resumption of multiparty negotiations are good after day one of the meeting of the most representative multiparty forum ever to be held in this country. The conference adjourned at the World Trade Center in Kempton Park a short while ago. Estelle Pienaar reports.

[Begin recording] [Pienaar] With the attention focused on the resumption of multiparty negotiations the resounding message was: Let's stop wasting time and continue without further delay. Today's meeting saw the 26 delegations delivering opening statements on their assessment of the current situation. Apart from the Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] participants, new faces around the table included representatives from the Afrikaner Volksunie [Afrikaner National Union], delegations of traditional leaders from the Transvaal, [Orange] Free State and the Cape Province, the KwaZulu Government, the Conservative Party and the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania [PAC]. PAC Secretary General Benny Alexander said the main focus of the conference should be to devise a forum for the establishment of a sovereign constituent assembly. He said this should be elected on the basis of a one man one vote election with all South Africans over the age of 18 voting on a common voters' roll in a unitary state.

[Alexander] The era in our country when apartheid held sway is over. However, apartheid has still to be eradicated and democratic institutions established.

[Pienaar] In his address, Afrikaner Volksunie spokesman Andries Beyers stressed the importance of reconciliation and strong regional government. He said this was a prerequisite for order and stability in South Africa.

[Beyers] This possible misappreciation of our reasonable cause, sir, will result in the chasing of Afrikaners into the arms of militant groups and organizations.

[Pienaar] The KwaZulu Government's Ben Ngubane took a firm stand on what has been a contentious issue. He told the conference that the participation of his government in future constitutional talks was not negotiable.

[Ngubane] We cannot accept a set of proposals that in effect means the final constitution will be drafted in some yet to be established period, any time between the election of the transitional government and the end of a five-year period of powersharing.

[Pienaar] The conference continues tomorrow when delegates will tackle the core issue surrounding the resumption of multiparty negotiations for a new political deal for South Africa. [end recording]

ANC's Ramaphosa Notes Gains

MB0503171093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1432 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 5 SAPA—Important gains have been made in negotiations in spite of problems, African National Congress [ANC] Secretary-General Cyril Ramaphosa told the multiparty planning conference at Kempton Park on Friday [5 March] afternoon.

The 26 delegations attending the planning conference are in the main looking at two issues: a critical assessment of the political process and preparations for the resumption of multiparty negotiations.

"In our deliberations it is imperative that each of us proceed from the acknowledgement that we are custodians of the interests of our members, supporters and the people of our country as a whole," Mr Ramaphosa said.

"This is an awesome responsibility when we consider the magnitude of the problems that beset our country.

"It is a responsibility that we can only discharge if each of us places the interests of our country above our party political interests."

Expressing the ANC's outrage at the "wanton murder" of six schoolchildren in Natal this week, Mr Ramaphosa asked the delegates to stand in silence for a minute.

"Our country is bleeding from every pore," he said.

There were "compelling reasons" why the delegations agreed with each other that it was important to resume proper multiparty negotiations as soon as possible.

Negotiations had to "rapidly take our country through from its current condition of fear, crime, extreme suffering, insecurity, violence and an indefensible socio-political system to stability premised on democracy".

"We need an all-inclusive forum..."

Mr Ramaphosa reaffirmed the ANC's commitment "to resolving the problems of our country through peaceful negotiations".

"Despite the obstacles, despite the confusion that surrounds the process, and despite the delays that have plagued the process to date, we believe that through the negotiations process, both bilateral and multiparty, our country has scored important gains," he said.

"In particular, the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) clearly set up sign-posts on the road from the present order to a united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa. Together, through intense negotiations we hammered out a viable scenario for transition.

"When we address the question of multiparty negotiations let us, with all humility, recognise two things," Mr

Ramaphosa said. "Firstly, Codesa is an imperfect instrument and we ought to constantly address its imperfections. Secondly, let us not delude our people into thinking that we can devise a forum which would be free of imperfections."

"The achievements that have been recorded to date must become the building blocks for rapid forward movement when we resume multiparty negotiations."

The negotiations planning conference could not ignore there was "an overwhelming need for the process to resume as soon as possible", he added.

"Any delay, any wavering in our commitment to achieve a negotiated resolution has the potential of destroying the faith of our people in the very process itself," Mr Ramaphosa warned.

"Despite the gains that we have alluded to, the changes in our country have not yet led to any tangible improvement in the condition of the lives of our people... We have a job to do. Let us do it now. Let us walk this last mile together."

Mr Ramaphosa said that at the core of negotiations "was the recognition that the surest way to a legitimate and credible democratic constitution is to have it drafted and adopted by the elected representatives of the people of South Africa in the form of a constituent assembly".

Neither the government nor any single formation, party or organisation could preside over the process leading to elections for the constituent assembly/constitution-making body.

"Accordingly, the scenario we evolved envisaged the formation of a multiparty transitional executive council during the first stage, which would ensure that the playing fields are levelled and that there is a climate of free political activity throughout the country. This would enable free and fair elections to be held."

The elections for the constituent assembly would simultaneously enable the formation of an interim government of national unity reflecting the desire of the electorate, and which would govern the country while the constituent assembly attended to its tasks.

"That the diverse and conflicting formations present in codesa succeeded in developing this scenario is an achievement that cannot be written off as if it never happened," Mr Ramaphosa said.

"It is therefore crucial that the resumed multiparty negotiations should speedily achieve the transition. The time is now."

"Each of us will have to answer the question: do we have the political will to place the interest of our country above all else? Are we ready to discharge the responsibility that is placed on us?"

CP Leader Speaks

MB0503143293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1345
GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March SAPA—The Conservative Party [CP] on Friday said a national multiparty conference should negotiate the functions, borders and powers of nation states in the country, and this should be legislated by the South African Parliament.

Addressing the multiparty planning conference at the World Trade Centre at Kempton Park, CP delegation leader Tom Langley said his party was irrevocably committed to the "attainment of the freedom of our people in our fatherland under our own government".

"We lay claim to the right of self-determination for the Afrikaner people. We are prepared to negotiate the implementation thereof. We reject any plan to force our people into a unitary state under a single central government."

His party believed original power should be vested in its envisaged state, whose government would decide which functions should be delegated upwards to a central co-ordinating body or downwards to local authorities.

It believed in a confederation of southern African states.

"We believe that the number of states, their functions, their borders and powers should be negotiated by interested parties in the state, facilitated by a national multi-conference and legislated by the existing South African Parliament."

For this reason, Mr Langley continued, there was no need for an interim government, an interim constitution or an elected constituent assembly.

He also called for perpetrators of violence, "such as the Azanian People's Liberation Army and Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing]", to be disbanded.

"They make peace impossible," said Mr Langley.

Mr Langley said a deficiency of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) was the lack of any provision for self-determination.

"Don't under-estimate our will to survive in freedom in our own land," he concluded.

AVU Leader Addresses Conference

MB0503141893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1307
GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 5 SAPA—The Afrikaner Volk-sunie [AVU, Afrikaner National Union] was looking for a fair deal in which minority groups would be protected, AVU leader Andries Beyers told the negotiations planning conference at Kempton Park on Friday afternoon.

"We urge all parties to accept the reasonable aspirations of Afrikaner nationalists," Mr Beyers said.

Self-determination of minority groups had for too long not been part of mainstream negotiations, he said.

The AVU stood for a new constitution which would allow for self-determination within a system of strong regionalism.

"Our self-determination can only be realised if it is not to the detriment of other South Africans," Mr Beyers said.

"We are ready and prepared to reconcile ourselves with all peace-loving South Africans."

Negotiations proper had to begin as soon as possible—"a deal must be reached", he said.

Mr Beyers welcomed remarks attributed to African National Congress President Nelson Mandela this week, when he met rightwing leader Carel Boshoff, and reportedly said he had sympathy for "forms of self-determination".

As far as the AVU was concerned, everyone would be equal before the law in a new dispensation, Mr Beyers added.

"The time has come for strong leadership—of statesmanlike behaviour," he concluded.

Venda Representative, Others Comment

MB0503162593 Johannesburg SABA in English 1357 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 5 SABA—The Venda government on Friday urged for a speedy resumption of multiparty talks to pull the country out of its political and economic morass.

"Our people are waiting anxiously for the resumption of multiparty negotiations. This is demonstrated by what is common cause in our country—the depressed economy, unemployment, violence and so on," said Venda's representative to the negotiations planning conference in Kempton Park, Mr G Ligege.

Resumed negotiations would fulfill a desire of all South Africans, he added.

In his contribution, Mr Amichand Rajbansi of the National People's Party said all South Africans wanted a peaceful resolution to the country's problems.

He said while his party believed in one South Africa and one nation, it recognised cultural diversity.

Ximoko Progressive Party delegation leader Mr E Ngobeni said his party was deeply concerned by the "slide into anarchy and chaos as well as the limbo in which people find themselves between the dead old order and the future which has still to be born".

There must be a rapid return to multiparty negotiations because his party had reservations about bilateral agreements.

Mr L C Mthiba of the traditional leaders of the Transvaal told the conference rural people were tired of violence.

He expressed appreciation for traditional leaders being invited to the planning conference.

AZAPO's Mokae on Absence From Talks

MB0503191993 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1830 GMT 4 Mar 93

[Studio interview with Azanian People's Organization Publicity Secretary, Dr. Gomolemo Mokae, by political correspondent Lester Venter—live]

[Text] [Venter] Dr. Mokae, AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] as we've heard, won't be at the multiparty planning conference tomorrow, and that makes it nearly the only party of note that will not be there. Why not?

[Mokae] Well, AZAPO is not, in principle, opposed to negotiations. We have said that over a number of times. We are, however, uncomfortable with negotiations as they are going on now because the structuring of the negotiations now, currently, is that they are undemocratic. The factor which we felt three years ago that it militated against us negotiating, the factor of the government being both the referee and the player, still persists after so much blood has flowed in the land, after so much time has gone under in the land really. And we do have those factors militating against us negotiating and we have said that we would want the government to step down from political power because we feel that the government cannot have its cake and eat it. It cannot purport to be in the process of giving political freedom to the black oppressed masses when, on the other hand it retains political power.

[Venter] Let's take two points out of that reply of yours. You say that the negotiating process is imperfect, but politics, it's often said, is the art of the possible, and so the process is imperfect. Nevertheless, is that a reason to stay out of it and call for it to be redesigned? Why not get involved with an imperfect process and make it as perfect as you can?

[Mokae] Well, certainly, the liberation struggle is in the whole process of being perfected as well. I mean, for a long time the liberation movement was opposed to collaborating with the regime. We have opposed the tricameral parliament. We have opposed the bantustan system. We have opposed the black local authorities, and the government has since seen, you know, the wisdom of doing away with those kind of—some of those systems indeed, particularly the tricameral system, and it is the role of the liberation forces to make sure that the government does succumb, so that we should have the whole process of perfection.

[Venter] If I put it to you like this: The government has already—you used the word succumb—the government has already agreed that it will succumb, let's use the word, that it will transfer power from a minority to a majority, and what's happening now is simply a discussion of how that should take place. Don't you see it that way?

[Mokae] We are uncomfortable with the government being the referee of that process. We are uncomfortable with the government being the referee of that process. We are also uncomfortable with the fact that the government controls the security forces. The so-called security forces are the ones which are unleashing a lot of violence within the black community. The same security forces are the ones—for instance, we were reading the other day, on a telegraph which had disappeared—they are the ones through which structures like the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau] can operate. We are uncomfortable. We are saying that the government needs to step down. We need a neutral party, a neutral international force with clout and credibility, which would oversee the negotiations. We also need a quarantining of the security forces, because no black person in the country now believes and has faith in the security forces.

[Venter] You say the government should step down, but is that practically possible? And wasn't it the tragedy of the decolonizing experience in Africa as a whole, that governments withdrew leaving a vacuum that was filled by strife, conflict, even internal war? And this process, once again, is exactly a discussion of how they'd stepped down, of how multiparty control over security forces, and other aspects, should be exercised?

[Mokae] Well, Mr. Venter, with a government that wears dishonor and corruption like a badge of honor, it looks like a vacuum is far much more preferable than the government.

[Venter] So when would AZAPO become part of the discussion process? At what stage?

[Mokae] We would become part of the discussion process once there's a neutral facilitator and mediator, as well as a neutral territory where talks would be taking place. You need to understand, Mr. Venter, that AZAPO is not the only flag bearer of black consciousness. We have an exiled ideological cousin to AZAPO, the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania [BCMA], whose military wing is the Azanian National Liberation Army, and we feel that they also need to participate, and you know, this brings us now to the whole point of indemnification. We are also uncomfortable with the fact that the government possesses the monopoly on who to indemnify and who not to indemnify, and we actually feel that it's not even incumbent upon the liberation forces to go to the government, cap in hand, to beg for indemnification. Our comrades within the BCMA have refused to subject themselves to that kind of a process.

[Venter] So if I put it to you Dr. Mokae, you are a practical and a political man—if these demands that you

are holding onto, that there should be a stepped down government, a neutral referee, negotiations even in a neutral territory—if these things don't happen, which from a practical view you possibly would concede are unlikely to happen, what then and when for AZAPO in the process?

[Mokae] Well, Mr. Venter, the negotiating forum that so much noise is being made about, as far as we are concerned, is a Titanic, actually. Who didn't want to get on board the Titanic, where he's going to hit an iceberg inasmuch as Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] hit an iceberg, because basically what you have in the meeting on Friday [5 March], is a potpourri of diverse ingredients with diverse ideological perspectives, and we don't see it succeeding; hence we would hold sway because, for instance, I mean, in the mid-eighties, early eighties, a lot of our AZAPO comrades were killed because they were propagating the constituent assembly. You remember at that time several liberation movements were propagating a national convention, but to show you the kind of clout that AZAPO has, despite the fact that we are not negotiating, we have enough sway, we hold enough sway so that almost everyone now is mouthing the constituent assembly. It means that without necessarily being in some smoke-filled rooms in Kempton Park, we do have an influence in the country, and we will continue to have an influence in the country.

[Venter] If that planning process goes ahead, and an election is held, and a constituent assembly that you're talking about is in fact implemented, will AZAPO make itself a participant in the election?

[Mokae] Well, if there are elections for a genuine socialist liberated Azania, we would participate in those elections, but we are actually wary of some of the redefinitions which are going on. For instance, we know of some organizations which are deliberately redefining the constituent assembly, and you know, which actually is an equivalent as far as we are concerned to a national convention. However, if indeed, push does come to shove, and elections are to be held, and we are convinced that those would be democratic elections, we would participate in those elections, and I can guarantee you, Mr. Venter, that AZAPO would perform very well because black people in the country, in their large numbers, are homing up to AZAPO, they are homing up to AZAPO's position, vis-a-vis negotiations that it is not opposed to negotiations in principle, but it believes that the government cannot tie our hands behind our backs, and then go and try to get us engaged with the government in a duel. It's almost like a person coming with a firearm, taking away your firearm, tying your hands behind your back, and threatening you, or rather, asking you to come and engage him in a duel. We wouldn't want to get into a duel without any kind of mechanism to defend ourselves.

[Venter] So if there's an election, AZAPO will be part of it. Just a quick one. What sort of support would you expect for your party in that election?

[Mokae] Isn't the reason that you are asking that question, Mr. Venter, because perhaps I should even have thanked you that it's long overdue that AZAPO does come to "Agenda" because the media, we're on record as having said that the media is a sort of an institution which, even if AZAPO could stop the world from rotating for a month, they will choose not to see it so that they can come and ask you what's that that you're doing, because for instance, we need to speak a little bit about the polls which are going on, which almost everyone now quotes—the Markinor surveys. Mr. Venter, if you were going to go and do a poll on people who drink soft drinks, and you choose to do a poll on Pepsi Cola and Coca Cola without including Fanta, then you come and get your results, and you conclude from the results that Fanta is unpopular, it would be very ridiculous, and indeed it is ridiculous because Markinor, in the service that they do, the kind of polls that your guys are fond of quoting, they hardly ever quote AZAPO...

[Venter, interrupting] I'm going to have to tell you that you've lost me a little there. Give me a percentage for...

[Mokae, interrupting] The point I'm making, Mr. Venter, is that Markinor surveys hardly ever polls AZAPO, and we challenge it to poll AZAPO, we challenge the media to go to those rallies which AZAPO is holding, for instance, we'll be holding a rally in Bekkersdal. We challenge you to come and assess for yourselves. I don't want to... [changes thought] It's easy for me to tell you that we would romp home. But I'm challenging the media to be objective and come and assess for themselves the kind of support that AZAPO has because...

[Venter, interrupting] So we've past by that opportunity to indicate your estimated support. Let's look at where AZAPO is positioned in the political spectrum. It is most likely that there will be an alliance-forming process leading up to an election, and perhaps afterwards. If that happens, where would you place your party?

[Mokae] Mr. Venter, let me put it this way, that we are not adverse to an alliance with other liberation forces. That's why for a long time we've been advocates of a patriotic front—a proper, not the kind of pathetic patriotic front which was going on in Durban, a proper patriotic front of liberation forces. However, AZAPO gathers its strength not so much from the presence and the company of other organizations, but it gathers its strength from the company and the presence of good ideas. You remember in the mid-eighties, there were organizations which were standing aloof from AZAPO, which did not want to condemn the necklace like AZAPO was prepared to do, which did not want to condemn the slogan like Liberation Now, Education Later like AZAPO was prepared to do, but they have still seen the light of day, and they have come and joined AZAPO, so basically, what we're saying is that we're

prepared to get into a fold with other liberation forces to fight elections, to guarantee the liberation of our people.

[Venter] Dr. Mokae, as far as politics goes, that strikes me as safe enough, thanks very much for joining us.

[Mokae] It was a pleasure, thank you.

Adjournment Over Procedural Question

MB0503195793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1821
GMT 5 Mar 93

[By Pierre Claassen, political correspondent]

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 5 SAPA—The multiparty planning conference adjourned prematurely on Friday to resolve a procedural question threatening its carefully preserved unity.

The proposal to adjourn came at a point where political tempers started to show signs of edginess around the precise purpose and direction of future constitutional talks delegates were asked to commit themselves to.

At a news conference later government ministers Leon Wessels and Tertius Delpoit nevertheless expressed their confidence the conference would survive the tensions of the day and move on to multiparty constitutional negotiations.

A questionmark however remained over the intentions of the Concerned South Africans Group (Cosag), whose member delegations appeared to have set themselves against the goal of ultimately arriving at a democratically-elected constitution-making body.

The conference displayed some cohesion and unity of purpose while its 26 delegations spent varying portions of their allotted seven minutes of floor-time to address the meeting and assess the current situation.

Once the speeches were over the cracks appeared around a resolution put by the Transkei military leader, Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa. The chairman immediately adjourned proceedings for tea without putting the resolution.

The wordy resolution in essence called for a commitment to the resumption of multiparty negotiations with the primary objective of having democratically-elected representatives of "all the people" draft and adopt a new constitution.

The subject cut right across the positions of the Cosag group, more specifically parties such as the Conservative Party which are opposed to a constituent assembly.

After tea the government's delegation leader, Roelf Meyer, tried to defuse the resolution with an amendment dropping the constituent assembly clause and setting the end of this month as the target for the resumption of talks.

His amendment was promptly seconded by the South African Communist Party's Essop Pahad and accepted by Gen Holomisa.

But the changes did not go far enough for the Cosag group. The Ciskei's Mike Webb wanted the last five of Gen Holomisa's six-paragraph resolution scrapped ending up with only a resolve by all parties to "commit ourselves to multiparty negotiations".

At this point of the day's proceedings good fortune appeared to have provided a way out in the person of a new rotating chairman, the Inyandza National Movement's N E Ginindza, who was clearly out of his depth in handling the procedural difficulties he was suddenly confronted with.

Points of order started obstructing a debate on the resolution he appeared determined to allow by disregarding Mr Webb's amendment.

When he was finally forced to call for seconders, and finding them, the question of how decisions were to be taken had already become part of an extended sub-debate conducted pleadingly in favour of consensus by the African National Congress' secretary-general, Cyril Ramaphosa.

Mr Meyer again came to the rescue and proposed the adjournment of proceedings to allow the 26-member facilitating committee to resolve the question of how decisions would be arrived at by the conference.

They should meet right away and report back to conference on Saturday, he suggested.

The Inkatha Freedom Party's delegation leader, Frank Mdlalose, seconded the motion, saying "it takes us out of the problem we are faced with and allows for cooling the issue down".

ANC, PAC Negotiate Strategy

MB0603082193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0654
GMT 6 Mar 93

[By Neil Lewis]

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—In a move that could herald a further challenge to the South African Government on the final day of the two-day multi-party planning conference at the World Trade Centre, near Johannesburg, the ANC [African National Congress], PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] and the "patriotic front of Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa]" will seek to present a united approach on major issues leading to the creation of a multi-party forum.

This follows a four-hour closed door meeting on Friday [5 March] night between the African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress, at which both parties agreed on tentative common approaches to their negotiations strategy on Saturday.

The "patriotic front of Codesa"—made up of, among others, the Inyandza National Movement of kaNgwane and the Labour Party—was briefed on the arrangement between the ANC and PAC early on Saturday morning at the World Trade Centre. Sources in the ANC, PAC and the Labour Party confirmed a new arrangement had been agreed upon by the ANC and PAC to present a somewhat united face at the planning conference. This could not be formalised as it had not been agreed upon by their principals.

The ANC delegation consisted of its deputy secretary general Jacob Zuma, Barbara Masekela and Mac Maharaj. They were later joined by Mathews Phosa and Mohammed Valli Moosa. The PAC delegation was led by its secretary general Benny Alexander, national organiser Maxwell Nmadzhivanani and Gora Ebrahim. Other PAC participants included Patricia de Lille.

A Labour Party source told SAPA that the briefing was about whether certain agreements reached at the two Convention for a Democratic SA gatherings in 1991/92 should stand and, therefore, be accepted by the PAC, or whether a fresh beginning emanating from a future multi-party forum should take their place.

The source added that they were also discussing a joint proposal whereby the Codesa Management Committee should be restructured and turned into a negotiating body to obviate what he called the laborious mechanisms of plenary sessions. They were also being briefed on joint strategies with regard to resolutions on the format and structure of a new multi-lateral forum, time frames of the transition process and transitional arrangements.

The ANC wants the process leading to a general election for a constituent assembly controlled by a transitional executive council with sub-councils, while the PAC seeks greater international involvement to ensure the transitional phase is not biased in favour of any political group.

The ANC/PAC meeting on Friday night had its genesis during lunchtime on Friday when ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa and his PAC counterpart, Mr Alexander, held talks on forging a common approach to major issues. Transkei military strongman Major-General Bantu Holomisa entered the discussions and urged both parties to have a united approach, after which private caucusing with the Codesa allies was held.

The original Patriotic Front [PF] got off the ground in October 1991, but collapsed when the PAC accused the ANC of collusion with the SA Government behind its partners backs. The PF financial account has been frozen since the collapse despite a large amount of capital remaining in the bank. The three signatories to the account are the ANC, PAC and the Azanian Peoples Organisation [AZAPO].

AZAPO was expelled before the convening of the PF in Durban in October 1991 after it objected to the participation of the Democratic Party and homeland administrations and their political parties.

Negotiations To Resume by 5 Apr

MB0603123993 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1111
GMT 6 Mar 93

[By David Greybe]

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—The multiparty negotiations planning conference at the World Trade Centre, near Johannesburg, on Saturday [6 March] afternoon agreed to resume negotiations by April 5. The only dissenting voice was that of the Conservative Party [CP], which abstained and said it would keep its options open for the party's further involvement in multiparty negotiations.

The two-page resolution was adopted by 25 of the 26 delegations at the planning conference in just under half an hour, at 12.48 PM. The CP objected to the resolution on the grounds that the planning conference had not dealt adequately with certain "stumbling blocks" in the negotiations process.

These included the issues of the armed wings of the African National Congress (Umkhonto we Sizwe) [Spear of the Nation], and the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) of the Pan Africanist Congress.

The CP said it would wait and see what the planning conference's facilitating committee, as mandated in the resolution, would come up with concerning the resumption/commencement of multiparty negotiations. "We want to keep our options open so we can take our decision later," CP deputy leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg told the conference. "We will see what the facilitating committee comes up with," Dr Hartzenberg said.

He stressed the CP was not being "obstructive" by abstaining from the discussions of the resolution. The CP was also not withdrawing its participation from the 26-member facilitating committee, he added.

One delegate from each of the participants at the planning conference sits on the facilitating committee.

Saturday's proceedings started just over two hours late. The reason was the facilitating committee first met behind closed doors to hammer out as broad a consensus as possible on the issue of the resumption of multiparty negotiations, and what form of decision-making to use during proceedings.

As a result, proceedings began officially just after 12 noon with the tabling of the resolutions. The resolution on the resumption of multiparty negotiations, as passed, requires all participants "to make an unqualified commitment to this process of negotiations".

"The multiparty forum shall be reconvened as a matter of national urgency, not later than April 5, 1993," the resolution adds.

Each participating organisation will send two delegates and two advisers. The first meeting (not later than April 5) of the "resumed/commenced" multiparty negotiations, as the resolution describes the upcoming multiparty negotiations, will determine, inter alia:

- "Mechanisms and procedures (including chairpersonship);
- "How to accommodate the views of those participants who were not in Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] in relation to the agreements reached in Codesa;
- "How these agreements can serve as a constructive foundation for the resumed/commenced negotiations process to build on;
- "How this forum shall be structured and named; (and)
- "The role of the international community."

"The facilitating committee of this conference will have the responsibility of deciding upon and implementing the steps that are necessary to give effect to this resolution," it adds.

The principle of "sufficient consensus", as used in Codesa (Convention for a Democratic South Africa), was accepted unanimously earlier in the day by the 26 participants.

The resolution states that: "All decisions are to be taken by general consensus. If this cannot be achieved, conference will use the method of sufficient consensus.

"This means that: there is a lack of general consensus; there is enough agreement from enough participants to enable the process to move forward; (and,) parties who disagree can record their objections or rejections formally, but will, in the spirit of cooperation, not hinder the process to go forward."

The resolution ends: "The ruling that there is consensus/sufficient consensus or not, should be taken by the chair in his/her discretion.

"This can, however, be challenged by any party who disagrees. The meeting will then deal with it as is appropriate."

Conference Ends

MB0603140793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1125
GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—The multi-party planning conference, which ended on Saturday [6 March] afternoon, unanimously adopted a resolution deploring the political violence in the country, in particular the massacre of 10 people at Table Mountain, near

Pietermaritzburg, on Friday. The draft resolution was proposed by Inkatha Freedom Party National Chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose. After minor amendments and being seconded, it was unanimously adopted.

Expressing the "utmost indignation and condemnation" of the killings, the resolution said the victims had fallen prey "to a climate of escalating violence which could jeopardise the success of negotiations".

The conference reiterated its unwavering rejection of political violence and actions that promoted political violence. "We offer our condolence to all those who have suffered deeply and commit ourselves to work relentlessly to end the violence, provide law and order and bring about a climate of peace, inter alia, through constitutional negotiations," the resolution concluded.

Meyer Holds News Conference on: Multiparty Talks

MB0603142493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1337
GMT 6 Mar 93

[By David Greybe]

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—The two-day multiparty planning negotiations conference had achieved its main objective of setting a timescale for the resumption of genuine negotiations, the government said on Saturday.

Senior government negotiator and minister of constitutional development, Roelf Meyer, dismissed claims that the planning conference at the World Trade Centre, outside Johannesburg, had not debated the real issues on the agenda.

The Conservative Party [CP], for instance, accused the conference of not making a thorough assessment of the current situation in negotiations, in particular the "stumbling blocks" it faced.

"We had only one main objective, as far as this planning conference is concerned," Mr Meyer told a media conference after the meeting ended.

"Whatever other parties had at the back of their minds...There was only thing that was actually the main objective, and that was to get a date for the resumption of multiparty negotiations.

"And that we got—mainly to resume it before April 5.

"That was the main objective...as far as that is (concerned) we have succeeded."

Now it was up to the 26-member facilitating committee, as mandated by the conference, to organise the resumption of multiparty negotiations.

"It was never the intention that any matter of a constitutional substance should have, or would have, been discussed during this conference," Mr Meyer added. "We are on target."

A great part of the success achieved at the planning conference could be ascribed to the work of recent bilateral meetings between the country's negotiators, Mr Meyer said.

He conceded there were still differences between some of the major players, for instance about regionalism and a new constitution, which called for further bilateral meetings.

These differences would have to be "ironed out" in further bilaterals, "that is why I...envisage that even though we resume multiparty talks, there would still be a need for bilateral discussions to continue".

"I think it can only help and actually enhance the multiparty talks through ironing out such differences in bilateral talks," Mr Meyer said.

"A great part of the success of the last two days can actually be attributed to the fact that we had the bilateral discussions over the last months," he argued.

"Although we might not have had on the agenda ... some of the issues that were part of our ... bilateral discussions, the mere fact that we started a process of getting closer to each other ... through bilaterals ... made it easier to find cooperation to build relationships and understanding... The result we have seen over the last two days.

"The government is very happy about the outcome of the two-day planning conference," Mr Meyer added.

"I think what succeeded in the end was the fact that reality and reason succeeded in bringing us together."

There seemed also to have been a joint commitment by all parties "that we have a common destiny and that we have to do something about it to ensure that we once and for all make progress towards a democratic South Africa".

Cape National Party leader Dr Dawie de Villiers, representing the NP at the planning conference, told the media at the end of the proceedings he was fully aware "of the difficulty of arriving at a final agreement on constitutional transition".

"I am very aware of the many pitfalls and the many difficulties ahead," he said. "I have no illusions about that ... I'm sure we all realise that.

"But the tone of this conference and the commitment of parties, and the willingness to really address these problems—not to avoid them, not to confront one another—but to see whether we can't make progress and can't find solutions, gives me optimism and is encouraging.

"We all realise that it is imperative for our country and all its people that we find solutions, difficult as it may be," Dr de Villiers added.

"And if that is the spirit prevailing both in the facilitating committee and in the next multiparty forum, I'm sure we will make progress.

"If we don't, well then it will be sad for our country and all its people.

"...It's that motivation, that commitment, that drive, that gives me confidence that we can overcome the many obstacles ahead," he said.

Justice Minister on PAC Ending Armed Action

MB0603135393 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1333 GMT 6 Mar 93

[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Kempton Park March 6 SAPA—The government has accepted that the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] has agreed to end armed action by its military wing APLA (Azanian Peoples' Liberation Army).

This, said Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel at a press conference near Johannesburg, was the only interpretation he could give for the PAC's acceptance of a resolution condemning political violence, adopted at a multiparty planning conference in Kempton Park on Saturday.

He and other government ministers addressed questions flowing from the successful conclusion of the two-day conference which adopted a resolution expressing the conference's "unwavering rejection of all instances of political violence and actions..."

Mr Kriel was asked whether the absence of APLA attacks since December did not in fact constitute the moratorium demanded from the PAC as a condition for talks between them.

He said that the PAC had committed itself to the resolution, which was passed and which also expressed the commitment of all parties to work relentlessly to end violence.

"The PAC has also stated that it and APLA are one and the same.

"I am therefore grateful that the PAC has adopted this resolution and the only interpretation I can put to it is that it must be the end of armed action by APLA," Mr Kriel said.

ANC Issues Statement at Conclusion of Talks

MB0603141893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1340 GMT 6 Mar 93

[From SAPA's PR Wire Service]

[Press statement by M.C. Ramaphosa, secretary general, African National Congress [ANC] at the multi-party planning conference, World Trade Centre, Johannesburg on 6 March]

The African National Congress emerges from this planning conference with a sense of deep satisfaction that a

torch of hope has been lit. We are confident that the way has now been opened for the resolution of the conflict in our country.

The announcement that the multi-party forum shall be reconvened not later than 5 April is an indication of the urgency with which the conference approached the looming crisis which faces all South Africans. This sense of urgency raises the hope that all parties and participants do indeed have the political will to place the interest of our country above all else.

The urgency with which we have to address our country's problems demands that the achievements of past negotiations should serve as a constructive foundation for the resumed negotiations we are embarking upon now. In this regard we re-affirm our commitment to the scenario hammered out at Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa]. We remain convinced that a democratically elected constituent assembly and the formation of an interim government of national unity and reconciliation is the surest way to achieve democracy in our country.

We also firmly believe that the resumption of multi-party negotiations will further strengthen the peace process in our country. The cold-blooded killing of six children at Table Mountain on Tuesday this week and the further massacre of ten people in the same area are brutal acts of naked terrorism and must stand condemned by all humanity.

It is now for all of to prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that South Africa will overcome the shameful legacy of apartheid and that, together, we can create a just and democratic society which can serve the needs of our people and take its full place in the international community.

Issued by : M.C. Ramaphosa, secretary general, African National Congress. 6 March 1993.

7-8 Mar Review of Press Editorials, Commentaries

MB0803130493

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

'Hurry' to Elections—"Early misgivings" about the process devised by the National Party, NP, and the African National Congress, ANC, for the transition to democracy "are beginning to seem uncomfortably accurate" says the 7 March Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English in its lead editorial entitled: "Hurry up, please" on page 20. The paper says the multiparty planning conference held 5-6 March "veered from high drama to virtual farce as lesser parties (some of them utterly unknown to the general public) fought for recognition, or petty advantage, or delay." "The slaughters in Natal this week were a reminder, if any reminder be required, that the fabric of society is tearing while the negotiating

parties play their games." The SUNDAY TIMES says the need to cut through the squabbling is "urgent" and the only way to do it is to "hurry towards the elections." It concludes that, while there "are dangers in this course" especially if it allows the ANC "roughly to override" as important a regional player as the Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, "we are reaching the point where a bad solution is better than no solution."

SUNDAY STAR

'Ending the Butchery'—"The butchers of Maritzburg and their political masters have committed atrocities so heinous that they have shocked" the country says the 7 March Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English in its editorial entitled "Ending the butchery" on page 26. It goes on to say that "if their goal was to derail talks, they have failed miserably." "In a warm-hearted gesture, the ANC's Cyril Ramaphosa backed a resolution by his IFP counterpart, Frank Mdlalose, condemning the unspeakable murders." "Ironically the tragedy of Table Mountain helped to concentrate the minds of opposing forces gathered at the World Trade Centre this week and facilitated the remarkable consensus that emerged against all odds." The paper concludes that if the Conservative Party's Ferdie Hartzenberg and the Pan-Africanist Congress' Benny Alexander "can sit together at the same table without coming to blows, then surely it should be easy enough for the rest of us to do the same."

THE STAR

Hopes for Settlement 'Rekindled'—"Tact, wisdom and, above all, deferment of contentious issues" enabled 26 political organizations to agree multiparty talks should resume within a month, says the 8 March Johannesburg THE STAR in English in its lead editorial entitled: "Solution by deferment" on page 8. The paper says this decision "by the most representative gathering of political leaders in South African history, has rekindled hopes for a settlement by early next year." While noting "serious, potentially divisive problems remain" THE STAR says that the "skillful wording of resolutions has postponed but not solved" them. It concludes: "An arduous journey lies ahead. But by agreeing to abjure violence as a means of resolving their differences and by

committing themselves to peaceful negotiations, the delegates have started out in the right spirit."

BUSINESS DAY

'Hesitant Beginning'—The 8 March Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English in its lead editorial entitled: "Hesitant start" on page 6, notes: "It says something about the difficulties that lie ahead" for the chief negotiators of the government and the ANC to "wax so eloquent about a two-day meeting which did little more than set the date for the next meeting." An "encouraging feature" of the talks is that "the two main parties achieved the correct, delicate balance in their dealings with the smaller parties." "The concept gets more complex where Inkatha—which falls between 'major' and 'minor' party status—is concerned. A settlement in which Inkatha is unwilling to participate would be a recipe for another decade of violence," and should be avoided. That Inkatha declined to ally itself with the Conservative Party in the talks "is just one hopeful sign" that it may be "willing to compromise on the impracticable confederal approach favoured by some Concerned South Africans Group members. The paper concludes that "even for those fully committed to talks, the obstacles ahead are numerous" and that the conference "was no triumph of progress. It was, at best, a hesitant beginning."

SOWETAN

'Ray of Hope'—"So far so good." That is how the lead editorial of the 8 March Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on page 6 begins. The paper calls the outcome of the multiparty planning conference "a welcome ray of hope after the gloom that enveloped" the country after the collapse of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa II last year. It continues: "We are now back in business again. The first hurdle has been cleared." Even more gratifying is that the decision to proceed with multiparty negotiations "was taken by the most representative assembly of the country's political leadership." "The success of the planning conference, however, should not blind us to the hurdles that lie in wait for us on the way." The paper concludes by saying that the "differences that almost stymied the conference" remain, but "we can rise above such petty politicking. So let's get on with it."

Angola**Dos Santos Urges Lifting Arms Embargo, Rejects UN Truce**

MB0703105993 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 7 Mar 93 p 11

[From Robert Powell in Luanda: "Angolan Leader Rejects Truce"]

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has rejected a UN truce call and appealed for an arms embargo to be lifted so he can fight on in a renewed outburst of his country's civil war.

But Mr dos Santos also said he backed UN peace efforts and would consider allowing UN peacekeepers to try to restore order.

"The most important thing is that there should be an agreement between the two sides on a ceasefire and there should be mechanisms to guarantee respect for the ceasefire," he said.

"Maybe we can discuss with the United Nations how they can send a peacekeeping force and what kind of mandate this force should have," he added.

Peace talks between the government and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebel movement collapsed when UNITA failed to send a delegation to a second round of UN-sponsored negotiations in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Mr dos Santos said he was still committed to a negotiated settlement and would consider giving Savimbi a government post as part of an eventual peace settlement.

But he rejected a proposal by the UN Special Representative to Angola, Miss Margaret Anstee, that both sides should declare an immediate truce.

"How can we accept that UNITA will react favourably to this proposal of a truce when it didn't even bother to go to Addis Ababa?" he said.

"It doesn't seem to us that this is a very apt proposal or that it is realistic at the moment."

Mr dos Santos appealed for an international arms embargo on the government and UNITA, written into a collapsed 1991 peace agreement, to be scrapped.

"We think that this clause must be abolished because we now have a legitimate government elected by our people," he said.

Seeks International Action Against UNITA

MB0603123593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has appealed to the international community to take decisive measures against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] unless the movement agrees on an immediate cease-fire. In an interview with the BBC, the president said such measures could include the restriction of movement of UNITA officials abroad, and the freezing of its accounts.

The Angolan president has once again appealed to the United Nations to find a formula to put an end to the clashes as soon as possible. Peace talks between the government and UNITA failed early this week, when representatives of Jonas Savimbi's movement failed to turn up in Addis Ababa.

UNITA Reportedly Takes 'Total Control' of Huambo

MB0603210893 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1901 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] The black cockerel flag has been fluttering since this afternoon over the palace of Huambo Province's governor. Huambo fell into the hands of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] after an unparalleled 55 days of ceaseless clashes. The political future of Angola will to a large extent depend on that victory. Lourenco Bento, correspondent of the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Huambo, saw the hoisting of the black cockerel flag in that city. He recorded the victory communique read by Division General Demostenes Chilingutula:

[Begin recording] [Bento] Esteemed listeners and Angolan people, accept our victorious salutations. The glorious patriotic and revolutionary FALA forces have just taken total control of the city of Huambo. At 1300 [1200 GMT] on 6 March 1993, FALA took the provincial governor's palace and the Interior Ministry building, the last fortifications of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]-Angolan Armed Forces-Riot Police forces. On the occasion of this resounding victory, FALA's Operational Command has issued a communique, which is read by Division General Demostenes Amos Chilingutula, who led the operations:

[Chilingutula] On behalf of FALA forces, who have fought in Huambo with (?decisive) courage under the direct leadership of Dr. Savimbi, our supreme commander and (?army) general, I have the historic honor and the duty of announcing to all the Angolan people and the international community that the capital of the central highlands was completely freed from FAPLA-Riot Police (?aggression) on 6 March 1993 after 55 days of fierce clashes.

In due course, we will broadcast all the excerpts of messages sent by Sukissa [Angolan police commander in Huambo] to Luanda, blaming the MPLA government for the treacherous attack that they carried out against us. [sentence as heard] We alert all Angolans and the international community that any massive air bombing of the city of Huambo, as requested by Sukissa from his government, will have serious consequences for future negotiations. God knows where the Angolan people will go. [Issued] City of Huambo on 6 March 1993
[Signed] Demostenes Amos Chilingutula, operations commander for Huambo [end recording]

Armed Forces Say Fighting Continues

LD0703062893 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network
in Portuguese 2300 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] [Announcer] Angola is again in the headlines: Radio Vorgan of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] this evening announced that the UNITA flag was flying at the provincial government palace in Huambo, the second city in the country. On the other hand, the Angolan National Radio, quoting a communique by the Angolan Armed Forces chief of staff, said that fighting continues in Huambo, but did not mention anything about the Vorgan news.

[Correspondent Andeiro Joao] An Angolan Armed Forces chief of staff source stated that fighting has continued in Huambo during the past few hours with the same intensity. The source stated there were no substantial changes on the Huambo front. As far as the situation in the rest of the country is concerned, the same source stated it remains apparently unchanged.

[Announcer] That was Andeiro Joao, a correspondent with the Angolan National Radio.

We have also been informed that over 500 UNITA men today arrived at the Huambo fighting area, as UNITA fired howitzers in the city all day and caused the destruction of at least five buildings and an unknown number of casualties. This UNITA force came from Bie province and is composed of a high proportion of white mercenaries. We have received other news reporting violent fighting in the Caala region, also in Huambo.

FALA Releases Communique

MB0703195893 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] Esteemed listeners, we would like to call your special attention to the following communique from the Office of the President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA]:

Whereas the long battle for the liberation of Huambo, the capital of the central highlands, is over, this office informs that:

1. There was no resistance whatsoever in the city of Huambo and outlying areas during the night of Saturday, 6 March 1993. Many people have been taken prisoner and other compatriots who had been deceived into joining the Riot Police have surrendered to their FALA brothers. Large quantities of war materiel, including T-55 and T-54 tanks in working condition, 76-mm guns and 57-mm antiaircraft guns, B-30 guns, hundreds of AK-47's and PKM's, long-range M-46 guns and thousands of shells and rounds of ammunition have been captured. General Demostenes Amos Chilingutula, commander of the military operations, will issue a detailed communique as soon as search operations have been completed.

All Huambo residents, without distinction, soon flocked to the Government Palace Square to salute the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], FALA and the policy of new trousers. Sunday, 7 March 1993 is a festive day in the highlands city of Huambo.

2. On Tuesday, 9 March 1993, the president of UNITA and FALA's supreme commander will address the nation and the international public opinion in order to discuss the consequences of the liberation of Huambo. The live address from Huambo will be broadcast by the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel at 1300 [1200 GMT]. The themes of the important address will include the search for peace through direct Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-UNITA talks, the venue of the next round of talks, who will mediate and what will be the composition of the mediating team, the Bicesse Accord, the role of the United Nations and of the international observers, a national framework for coexistence, respect for private rights, democratic tolerance, and humanitarian assistance.

[Issued] Huambo on 7 March 1993

[Signed] Brigadier Elias Malundo Bravo da Costa Pedro, secretary general of the Presidency and of the Supreme Commander.

FAA Issues Communique on Withdrawal

MB0703204393 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 2015 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] We now bring you a communique just in from the General Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA], regarding the latest events in Huambo Province.

[Begin unidentified General Staff official recording] The FAA General Staff informs the Angolan and international public that, after 56 days of violent clashes between government and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola forces backed by South African, Zairian and other mercenaries in the martyred city of Huambo, the government forces withdrew in an organized manner and for strategic reasons, from positions they occupied to defend the city. The government troops have moved to more advantageous positions. In due course, and as has been the practice, the FAA General Staff will keep the Angolan and international public informed about the evolution of the situation.

Headquarters in Luanda on 7 March 1993
[Signed] Army General Joao Baptista de Matos, chief of
the FAA General Staff [end recording]

UNITA's General Ben-Ben Discusses Huambo Takeover

MB0703142793 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the
Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central
Africa 1200 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] The Angolan people continue to rejoice at the
Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA]
taking the city of Huambo at 1300 [1200 GMT] on 3
March. Interviewed by the Voice of the Resistance of the
Black Cockerel [Vorgan] today, FALA Chief of Staff
Army General Arlindo Chenda Isaac Pena Ben-Ben
spoke of the political and military importance of taking
Huambo. The senior FALA officer said the National
Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is
willing to talk to the Popular Movement for the Libera-
tion of Angola [MPLA] government as long as the latter
shows responsibility and serious commitment to dia-
logue.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] FALA Chief of
Staff General Ben-Ben, it is a great pleasure to have you
on the line. The media workers convey their cordial
greetings to you.

[Ben-Ben] Thank you, it is also my pleasure to be talking
to you. We would like to take this opportunity to greet all
Vorgan workers and listeners. We think we can answer
all your questions.

[Reporter] General, UNITA's militants, sympathizers
and friends as well as honorable Angolans wish to
express their solidarity with FALA for the victory in
Huambo. General, do you have the details of the battle
for Huambo?

[Ben-Ben] We will give the details (?shortly). We have
received all the particulars from our supreme com-
mander who guided us and for all practical purposes led
the battle for Huambo. We have information that there
were bombardments. Regrettably, there were incidents.
A great number of residents suffered and died, particu-
larly because the MPLA government bombed Huambo
indiscriminately. Regardless, Huambo is (?virtually
under) our control.

[Reporter] General Ben-Ben, what is the meaning of this
victory for FALA and from a political standpoint?

[Ben-Ben] I would like to say that we were forced to fight.
We did not initiate the clashes [words indistinct] the
enemy attacked us in Huambo, like it did in Luanda and
in other cities. Obviously, we had to react to the enemy's
attack. From a military standpoint, this is an undeniable
victory.

From a political standpoint, obviously we have to take
advantage of this victory. We will have to defend our
people and show the world that the MPLA does not have

the monopoly on power. The fact is that right now the
MPLA is receiving materiel from abroad. We know it.
We will also give an unequivocal response so that the
materiel will not pose a threat to our people.

[Reporter] Will war be the solution to Angola?

[Ben-Ben] We do not think so. We think that it is
necessary to talk, although our interlocutors are irre-
sponsible people. They are unscrupulous people who are
not aware of the suffering endured by the people. For 16
years, we suffered and lived with the people. We have a
clear idea of what suffering is all about. We have a huge
and rich country, but unfortunately we have people who
claim to be leaders and generals though they do not care
about the suffering of our people.

[Reporter] General, how do you see the political and
military situation in other parts of the country?

[Ben-Ben] In brief, I would say that our country is on
(?fire), really. Our country is suffering [words indistinct]
in response to the MPLA's war intentions. For instance,
we control provinces, districts and communes in the
northern region. The same applies to the southern
region. We also know that Benguela, Menongue, Bie and
other provincial capitals, namely of Lunda and Moxico
Provinces are areas where the residents have stated
(?their support for UNITA). We are aware that there was
fraud and so the people reacted to that. Obviously, they
had to react with all their might by occupying com-
munes, districts and chasing the chieftains from there.
The media and the international public opinion say that
UNITA controls 75 percent of the country, though as a
soldier I think that UNITA controls 80 percent of the
country.

[Reporter] General, would you like to convey a message
to FALA in particular and Angolan youths in general?

[Ben-Ben] Absolutely. I would like to say a few words to
all combatants who have fought with resolve in Huambo,
as well as to generals, senior officers [words indistinct]
who complied with the orders given by their supreme
commander. To all of them, we say: Thank you.

To all our soldiers [words indistinct] in every province. I
would like to say that a solution to our country's prob-
lems of necessity depends on their effort. We count on
them [words indistinct] the FALA General Staff is on
your side and will support you.

As for the youths, the victory at Huambo [words indis-
tinct] they should make every effort so that UNITA
avenges its heroes and its deceased. Our approach to the
MPLA must of necessity be one of strength because we
know that while we negotiated in Luanda, we were
attacked from the installations where we were negoti-
ating. It was a treacherous [words indistinct].

For the Vorgan workers, I would [words indistinct]
should show the same courage because the victory will of
necessity belong to the Angolan people. [end recording]

UNITA Sets Conditions After Huambo 'Alleged Victory'

MB0703113193 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] After its alleged victory claimed in Huambo, UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has set conditions for the resumption of talks to end the civil war in Angola. According to the Portuguese news agency LUSA, UNITA is demanding that the negotiations be held in Geneva, that the government stop its attacks on Huambo, that the talks not be limited to the Addis Ababa agenda, and that no former UNITA members be included in the government's delegation.

Earlier UNITA radio announced that the organization had captured Huambo after a 55 day battle. The government has not yet reacted to the announcement.

Government-UNITA Clashes Continue

UNITA Claims Victories in Lunda Sul

MB0703071993 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] yesterday repulsed a People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] company which tried to occupy Luo commune under the control of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] in Lunda Sul Province. The attack which took place around 1400, resulted in the death of four FAPLA soldiers, including the operation's commander. FALA forces also captured one AK-47, 10 40-mm shells, and important documents. What is more, on 4 March, FALA forces neutralized a FAPLA platoon at the source of the River Chaungo, 3 km east of Saurimo Airport, killing three FAPLA soldiers, and capturing two AK-47 weapons and 400 rounds of ammunition.

FALA Repulses Battalion in Moxico

MB0703075493 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] repulsed a government battalion which tried to reoccupy Sacassange District in Moxico Province on 4 March. FALA forces captured the district on 2 March. Muchiava, our correspondent in the city of Luena, says during the attack, our forces killed 10 soldiers belonging to the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, and captured six AK weapons, 2,000 rounds of AK ammunition, 10 60-mm shells, seven 82-mm shells, and a quantity of other military equipment.

FALA Troops Take Nhanga Commune

MB0703070093 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] The Nhanga Commune in Cunene Province has been under the total control of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] since yesterday. Our correspondent, Americo Paulino, reports that the 43-minute FALA attack resulted in the death of 10 People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers, including a second lieutenant. Our forces also captured a quantity of war materiel. Also yesterday, our forces routed a FAPLA group heading for Nhanga to assist their comrades. Two FAPLA soldiers were killed, while the remaining soldiers fled in disarray.

UN Representative Anstee Comments Before Departure

MB0603102093 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Interview with Margaret Anstee, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, by unidentified reporter in Luanda on 5 March—questions in Portuguese, Anstee's responses in Spanish]

[Text] The UN Security Council is due to hold a meeting in New York today to assess the situation in Angola. Margaret Anstee, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, was summoned to New York for consultations with the secretary general, on the steps to follow in the Angolan conflict. Before departure, Margaret Anstee spoke to journalists in the 4 February International Airport.

[Begin recording] [Anstee] Today I am leaving for New York where I will arrive on Monday [8 March] to attend the first meeting. This morning I had a meeting with the prime minister and the president, who gave their views. Thus I will go to New York with [word indistinct] information.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] Addis Ababa?

[Anstee] I do not know. I do not think [words indistinct] in reality. I believe that we of the United Nations have been doing everything possible to assist Angola to reach a peaceful solution. This is our obligation. Now, the meeting did not take place, obviously, because one of the sides did not turn up despite considerable efforts on our side. If someone believes that anything else should have been done, I can cede my post to the person. [end recording]

Anstee said she did not know what position the Security Council would take, but believes it is necessary to find a solution for the Angolan conflict.

[Begin Anstee recording] It is very difficult for me to foresee what will be the outcome of the meeting. Obviously, I hope that, together, we can find a solution for

this conflict and human tragedy, and put an end to the terrible conflict. This is a very complex situation and there are no easy solutions. The only thing I can say is that once more I will make great efforts to seek that solution. [end recording]

UN Withdraws Monitors From Cabinda Following Attack

MB0703143493 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] The United Nations has withdrawn its team of cease-fire monitors from Angola's oil producing territory, Cabinda. A UN spokesman says the decision to withdraw the monitors follows a grenade and machine gun attack on them in which one was wounded.

The spokesman says on Friday [5 March] night the UN camp in Cabinda was attacked by unknown people using automatic weapons and hand grenades. He says [words indistinct] in which they live and one police observer was hit.

FLEC Leader Says Not Opposed to UN in Cabinda

MB0803082893 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Interview with N'zita Tiago, leader of the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Armed Forces of Cabinda, by Goncalo de Carvalho on the "Last Minute" program on 7 March; place not given—first paragraph is studio introduction]

[Text] The United Nations has said that they have withdrawn their observers from the Cabinda Enclave after they were attacked. So far, no one has claimed responsibility for the action in which a Dutch observer was wounded. According to Luanda, the attack must have been carried out either by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] or the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Armed Forces of Cabinda [FLEC-FAC]. UNITA representative in Brussels, Alcide Sakala, contacted a few moments ago, denied any responsibility. FLEC-FAC leader N'zita Tiago also told us a few minutes ago that he is not responsible.

[Begin recording] [Tiago] I have no information from the FAC General Staff. I want to say that FAC forces are not against the presence of UN personnel in Cabinda.

[Carvalho] But the Luanda government says either UNITA or FLEC is responsible for the attack?

[Tiago] The Luanda government cannot say it is either UNITA or FLEC that carried out the attack because it claims to be the protector of the Cabindan residents and their property.

[Carvalho] But you too allege that you control Cabindan territory. How can such an incident take place without your knowledge?

[Tiago] We have liberated zones. We do not claim to control Cabinda, we have liberated zones that we control. We control Massabi, Miconje, and Ncutu. We also partly control Dinga and Buco-Zau. If there is an incident in these areas, we shall be able to provide you correct information and even allow journalists to report on the matter. Now, the Angolan Government is the one that claims to control Cabinda. In other words, this government guarantees the protection of the people who live there. This being the case, it should be the one to provide information on the matter and not run away from its responsibilities. [end recording]

Botswana

President Masire Addresses BDP Council on Corruption

MB0703051593 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1910 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] The president, Sir Ketumile Masire, says the government will deal with corruption as ruthlessly as the law permits. He says corruption ruins the economy, squanders resources, and erodes public confidence in the country's social, economic, and political system.

Sir Ketumile was addressing the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] council at (Sebele) this morning. He said the government will strengthen its internal and external audit systems in a fight to stamp out corruption and to enhance standards of efficiency and professionalism. He said if an ombudsman can assist in rooting out corruption, then consideration must be given to establishing one.

Sir Ketumile said the success of these measures require leaders to set the highest examples, and Botswana to sharpen their perceptions of moral values and ideals. He said it is not enough to decry developments such as the Botswana Housing Corporation saga, but more important are lessons to be drawn from them. The president said Botswana's democracy and its process will from time to time be subject to severe tests, but such trials should be used to strengthen rather than weaken the country's democratic tradition.

On drought, Sir Ketumile said planning processes would now assume drought as a permanent feature, to enhance the efficiency with which further drought can be tackled. He urged Botswana to initiate their own private efforts towards drought preparedness, saying people should understand the value of conserving surpluses from good years of harvest.

On the BDP itself, Sir Ketumile expressed concern at time and energy being used in furthering of differences rather than promoting unifying factors and party interests. He said these differences are being cemented to a

degree whereby they have the potential to fragment and balkanize what has been a united party membership.

Sir Ketumile called for the rekindling of the old BDP spirit of hard work to promote the party's cause, adding that for the BDP to achieve its goal of leading Botswana into the next millennium, there is need for unity and cohesion in the party. He told party leaders to expect within the party differences of opinion between its membership, adding that constructive debates, wherever they arose, need to be encouraged, as they represent a practical application of the principles of democracy.

On the coming elections, the president talked about the delimitation commission, saying some of the six new constituencies are in areas where the party's support has been weak. He said with concerted campaigns and the right candidates, this will change. He also reminded BDP leaders of the coming national congress, which will elect the Central Committee, which will thereafter hold primary elections to determine candidates for the general election.

Sir Ketumile appealed to party members to be guided by merit, and to resist tribalistic or regionalistic sentiments. He also appealed to those who would lose the primaries to accept defeat and render the victors the support they themselves would have expected if they could have won.

Malawi

Banda Urges Citizens Register for 14 Jun Referendum

MB0703183493 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi [Paramount] Dr. Kamuzu Banda, has said he is happy that Mangochi, which, during the colonial days was among the most backward districts in the country, is now well developed. The life president was speaking at the Mangochi Boma [local government], where he addressed a public meeting as he continues his tour of districts in the southern region.

The Ngwazi said when he returned home, people of Mangochi were poor and illiterate because the then missionaries [words indistinct] conversion into Christianity as a precondition to enroll in their schools. He said he denounced that policy which discriminated against Muslims in schools and believed that Muslims should go to school and remain as Muslims just as they did in other countries like Nigeria. He said he was happy that many Muslims were now educated and among them are doctors, lawyers and teachers.

The Ngwazi told the big crowd that attended the meeting that Mangochi District Hospital has been incorporated into the College of Medicine so that people of Mangochi would benefit from the expertise of the college.

On the forthcoming national referendum, the life president appealed to Malawians to register in large numbers so that they can vote on June the 14th. Pertaining to the referendum campaign, the Ngwazi described as irresponsible reported intentions by the pressure groups that, if they came to power, they would allow uncontrolled fishing in Lake Malawi. He explained that controlled fishing was a management and development measure that ensured that fish stocks are not depleted because it allowed time for the [species] to breed. He warned his people against listening to [words indistinct] [lies] by pressure groups.

The life president also appealed to people to maintain peace and calm, law and order. In this connection, he said he was shocked to hear that a certain group of people in Blantyre attacked a vehicle carrying a dead body. The Ngwazi questioned whether harassing others and interrupting funeral processions is the freedom that pressure groups are advocating.

The life president said he was grateful for the gifts from the people of Mangochi and told them that the money would go toward buying medicine for orphanages and that Mangochi people would benefit from that.

Mozambique

Renamo Fails To Attend Scheduled Maputo Meeting

MB0603143793 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] Aldo Ajello, UN secretary general's special representative in Mozambique, has regretted the fact that the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] did not show up at the General Peace Accord's Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] meeting which was scheduled to take place in Maputo this morning. In view of Renamo's absence, an informal meeting was held with the participation of government representatives, ambassadors from the observer countries and members of the UN's blue helmets.

An observer to the peace process, who attended the meeting, told our correspondent that the sides involved in the process will take measures aimed at ensuring that the Renamo delegation in Maputo behaves responsibly and desists from capricious attitudes which do not dignify civilized people.

A resolution adopted at the informal meeting says a CSC meeting will be held on 9 March. Meanwhile, Aldo Ajello will hold bilateral meetings with the government and Renamo in order to ensure flexibility whenever meetings aimed at discussing relevant issues are convened.

Asked to comment, Renamo Secretary General Vicente Ululu said he did not know the reasons for the absence of his colleagues from today's meeting. He stressed that he was only a party member with no seat in the commissions created within the framework of the General Peace

Accord. Attempts by our reporter to contact Raul Domingos proved fruitless because he was neither at home nor at Renamo's headquarters.

Domingos Explains

MB0603185993 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] As reported earlier, a meeting of the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] failed to take place this morning as scheduled. Mr. Raul Domingos, head of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] delegation to CSC, is on the line to explain his organization's absence from the meeting:

[Domingos] First, I regret the fact that the CSC chairman convened a meeting or rather insisted on convening such a meeting. We had informed him that it would not be possible for Renamo to be present at the meeting. So the fact that the meeting went ahead with the foreknowledge that Renamo would not be present makes us have second thoughts.

[Unidentified reporter] Well, apparently the meeting did not take place. There was a briefing [preceding word in English] instead. You were saying that you had informed the chairman of the commission that you would not attend the meeting. Did you give any reason?

[Domingos] Yes. We felt that the meeting should not take place because conditions had not been created. The agenda of the meeting dealt with discussions of alleged violations reported by Renamo. We already had a meeting at which we stated that alleged violations should be reported in line with Cease-Fire Commission [CCF] regulations.

[Reporter] Mr. Raul Domingos, I do not understand what you mean by regulations. As far as I know, Minister Guebuza, who represents the government, told me on 4 March that six alleged Renamo violations had been reported to the United Nations. So I do not know what regulations have not been complied with.

[Domingos] Whenever violations of the cease-fire accord are reported, the CCF informs the United Nations. So, the CCF itself has established rules that ought to be complied with whenever a violation is reported. That is, a report should include details that permit the investigating team to follow up on the matter in a proper manner.

I will give you an example. One of the alleged six violations says that early in March a Renamo battalion trained in Malawi entered the country and is now stationed in (Tanda) region. Well, this does not give specific information that permits a correct investigation. As it stands, such an allegation could take years to complete. As far as I know, the CCF regulations state that a violation report should at least state the date when the battalion was seen entering Mozambique from

Malawi, the area in which it crossed into the country, and what itinerary the battalion followed until it established itself in a given area.

[Reporter] Mr. Raul Domingos, you said that you had informed the United Nations that Renamo would not attend the meeting. I was somewhat surprised to hear Mr. Aldo Ajello, the interim representative of the UN secretary general, saying that he had been taken by surprise.

[Domingos] That is also where we have some questions to ask. We believe that any meeting has an agenda agreed in advance. That is in line with the regulations. The sides should agree with the agenda and the date of the meeting.

Renamo Prevents Investigation of Government Claims

MB0503185293 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] The former Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebel movement has prevented the Cease-Fire Commission from investigating the latest Mozambican Government complaints of violations of last October's peace accord by the movement.

The United Nations special representative in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, told a news conference in Maputo today that the Cease-Fire Commission was unable to reach agreement because the Renamo side claimed the government had not substantiated its allegations and had not presented them in the correct form.

The UN had prepared a plan to investigate the six sites of the alleged violations but, in Mr. Ajello's words, Renamo told us they were not prepared to go. With the Cease-Fire Commission now deadlocked, Mr. Ajello said the issue must go before the body in (overall) charge of implementing the peace accord, the Supervision and Control Commission, which will meet tomorrow.

Ajello Reports UN Approves Full Budget for Operations

MB0603110793 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] At his weekly meeting with the media in Maputo today, UN Special Representative Aldo Ajello announced that the UN Committee for Budgetary and Administrative Affairs has already approved the full budget for UN operations in Mozambique. He added that committee has already advanced some \$9.5 million for UN operations in Mozambique up to 15 March.

Asked about incidents involving UN Operations in Mozambique [UNOMOZ] aircraft in the cities of Chimoio, Beira, and Nacala, Aldo Ajello said they had happened because, unlike the situation in many other parts of the world where UN operations are under way, there is no basic Mozambican Government-UN agreement yet.

Portuguese Military Communications Team Arrives

MB0703183393 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] Four Portuguese soldiers arrived in Maputo today to finalize matters relating to a telecommunications unit which will ensure the command of the UN Operations in Mozambique controls forces monitoring the peace process. The Portuguese team is headed by Colonel Manuel Cruz Fernandes and includes Lieutenant Colonel Pinto de Castro, the future commander of the telecommunications unit. Portugal will participate in monitoring the Mozambique General Peace Accord with more than 230 men.

Chissano Receives Visiting Portuguese Official 5 Mar

MB0503175093 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano received Briosa e Gala, Portuguese secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, in Maputo this afternoon. The Portuguese official relayed Prime Minister Cavaco Silva's greetings to the Mozambican head of state. In turn, President Chissano took the opportunity to brief Briosa e Gala on the evolution of the implementation of the Mozambican peace process.

Zambia

Socialist Party Welcomes State of Emergency

MB0503185093 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] The Revolutionary Socialist Party has welcomed the state of emergency, but has warned government not to use it to stifle freedom of speech, movement, and assembly, as [word indistinct] of protecting young democracy. Interim Chairman of the Party Samson Banda today said the implementation of the state of emergency will show whether there is really a departure from the Second Republic where people were detained and [words indistinct] guns. Mr. Banda cautioned government not to close its eyes to the fact that its liberalization program is causing widespread dissatisfaction among the Zambians. He added that it would be to the discredit of the government if every form of protest, including strikes and demonstrations are linked to the Zero Option Plan.

Iranian Envoy Denies Involvement in Unrest

LD0603144793 Tehran IRNA in English 1234 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] Tehran, March 6, IRNA—Iran denied Zambia's allegations on having intervened in recent unrest in that country and supported the opposition United National Independence Party (UNIP).

Iran's ambassador to Zambia [words indistinct] radio and television Friday [5 March] strongly rejected allegations on Iran's interference in internal affairs of Zambia, especially on rendering help to UNIP.

Describing such accusations as contrary to Iran's policy of non-interference in the affairs of other countries, Mohsen Pakaein called for further explanation by the Zambian Government.

Zambia's President Frederick Chiluba Thursday accused foreign countries, including Iran and Iraq, of rendering financial aid to UNIP to overthrow the government.

Meanwhile head of the UNIP in a press conference Friday refuted the Zambian president's allegations. He reiterated that UNIP had never received any kind of financial, political, cultural and military support from foreign countries, including Iran, to overthrow the ruling government. He also asked the government to hand over any document attesting to the accusations.

The Zambian foreign minister later said that the plot to overthrow the government was under investigation and the result would be announced within the next ten days.

UNIP Party President Confirms Arrests of Officials

MB0503185193 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] UNIP [United National Independence Party] President Kebby Musokotwane has confirmed that at least 10 UNIP officials—and one of them former President Kaunda's son, Wezi—had been picked up by police for questioning. Mr. Musokotwane said the 10 were picked up early this morning and were being held at various police stations in the capital. Others picked up are: Mr. Kazungu Mulungula, Mr. Robson Chongo, Mr. Rupia Banda, Major Mbulu, Mr. Peter Lishuka, and Mr. William Banda. Two members of the Central Committee whom Mr. Musokotwane did not name have also been picked up, while houses and offices of UNIP officials in Lusaka and at Copperbelt (?seem) to have been searched by the police. Announcing the arrests at a press conference at Freedom House today, Mr. Musokotwane said it seems UNIP was a victim but could not elaborate, although he pledged cooperation with the government in its investigation into the matter. Mr. Musokotwane, who could not say why the UNIP officials had been picked up, appealed to UNIP members and ordinary Zambians to remain calm in the face of a reimposition of the state of emergency.

Information Minister Comments

MB0703190693 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 3 Mar 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Zambian Government has been rounding up opposition politicians ever since the imposition on

Thursday [4 March] night of a state of emergency. Amongst the 21 detentions so far, are two sons of former President Kenneth Kaunda. The crackdown comes amidst reports that Kaunda's old ruling party, UNIP [United National Independence Party], was planning to overthrow Frederick Chiluba's MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government. The MMD's information minister, Dipak Patel, has been fighting alleged UNIP claims that they intended to remove the MMD government by the end of this year. Rashid Meer spoke to Dipak Patel today on the line to Livingstone, and put it to him that this is how you would expect an opposition to talk anyway.

[Begin recording] [Patel] I believe that people have a right to change governments through the due process of law and the president, when he made that announcement on national radio and television clearly stated that we will uphold the rights of the people to (?change) this government through the due process of law. He further went on to say that we will uphold the rights of all political parties [word indistinct] ideas. I think the only people that have to worry under this state of emergency, unlike the past, which was draconian, are the people who are bent on breaking the law.

[Meer] But you are suspending existing laws. So, how do you say people can [word indistinct] be dealt with within the terms of the law and you are committed to democracy, when in effect what you are doing is suspending all of that?

[Patel] No, we are not suspending that because under any state of emergency [words indistinct] of regulations are issued and this is still [word indistinct] parliament for debate on Tuesday [9 March] morning.

[Meer] So, while parliament still hasn't debated these measures, people have been picked up, they are now languishing in jail.

[Patel] But we are only acting on the (?broad powers) of the state of emergency under the Constitution, and all those who have been picked up will be subjected to being brought before the courts of law in a very short time.

[Meer] Do you feel that you have picked up everyone you need to or do you think there are going to be more arrests?

[Patel] The work is still being undertaken and it is a matter of time before those we think who are involved in such activities will be picked up.

[Meer] So you think there will be more arrests?

[Patel] I didn't say that.

[Meer] In the meanwhile, the people who have been picked up, when are you going to charge them?

[Patel] Well, the regulations of this [word indistinct] debate and discussed by parliament, but what the government is proposing is that the minimum of seven or 14 days will be the period in which people, if they are locked up, before they are brought to court and if they are found innocent, they will be released.

[Meer] Now, there has been some mention of Iraqi involvement, there has also been a denial from Iraq. Can you elaborate on this all question of Iraq involvement?

[Patel] Well, maybe briefly. It is a matter of public record that the former president and [words indistinct] are very closely associated with the government of Iraq, in particular Saddam Husayn. We believe that there is some association between the two and I leave it at that.

[Meer] But this sounds like what you are saying is Saddam Husayn was involved with UNIP in some campaign to destabilize, to launch some kind of coup in Zambia?

[Patel] Well, all I am saying is that there are very close relationships between the two families.

[Meer] You don't think that this is simply a case of your military intelligence being a bit paranoid and justifying their existence?

[Patel] Well, all I can say is that, as we go through the process of law we will find out who is more paranoid.
[end recording]

Opposition Demands Release of Political Detainees

MB0703201593 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Text] The president of the National Party for Democracy, Mr. Nsemphani Mwaanga, has called for the unconditional release of all the UNIP [United National Independence Party] members who have been picked up by police for questioning over the Zero Option document which advocates the illegal removal of the government. Mr. Mwaanga was speaking in Lusaka this afternoon at a rally attended by six political parties, including UNIP, and the Congress for National Unity [CNU]. Twelve parties were expected, but only six sent their representatives. The UNIP president, Mr. Kebby Musokotwane, missed the meeting while the United Democratic Party led by Mr. Enock Kavindele did not send any representative.

Speaking at the same meeting, the (?CNU) national coordinator, (Patrick Kacheka), said the state of emergency is not necessary because the president as commander-in-chief of the armed forces, already has enough powers to deal with crime without the state of emergency.

Cote d'Ivoire

President, Nigeria's Aikhomu Discuss Air Raid

AB0503213393 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1900 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] A Nigerian delegation led by Vice President Admiral Aikhomu was received today by the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. It will be recalled that this Nigerian delegation arrived in Cote d'Ivoire after the air raid on an Ivorian village by the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG] forces and after a strong protest by Cote d'Ivoire to the ECOWAS. Benjamin Oulai, what can we retain from the audience that you attended this afternoon?

[Begin Oulai recording] Yes, Emmanuel Gore Bi Ta: We must say that the air raid on an Ivorian village by ECOMOG forces on 27 February was a regrettable mistake that will never be repeated again. This was confirmed this afternoon by Nigerian Foreign Minister Matthew Mbu after a two-and-a-half-hour audience that the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny granted to the Nigerian delegation led by Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, vice president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. After the discussions with the head of state, the persons directly concerned with this incident on the Cote d'Ivoire-Liberia border spoke in turns.

Thus, the head of the delegation, Admiral Aikhomu, said that he was bearer of a message of solidarity and friendship between Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria. It will be recalled that the delegation was made up of representatives of the Nigerian Government, ECOWAS, and ECOMOG. A mini news conference then followed the Nigerian vice president's statement.

After the Nigerian foreign minister, who regarded this incident as a mistake that should never be repeated, it was the turn of ECOWAS Executive Secretary Abass Bundu who also regretted this act by ECOMOG forces, saying that ECOMOG was set up ECOWAS to preserve peace in the subregion. ECOMOG is therefore a creation of the West African heads of state and cannot be used against a member country. Nothing should therefore come between Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria, two brotherly countries from the West African subregion and, moreover, members of ECOWAS.

In his statement, the ECOMOG field commander, General Adetunji Olurin, also expressed regret but said that it was an act of warning that he simply wanted to give Charles Taylor who continues, according to him, to defy the ECOMOG member countries with his warlike attitude.

Our foreign minister, Amara Essy, then intervened by saying that the head of state had taken good note of the statements made by each and sundry. He said that the incident was thus over since Cote d'Ivoire asked ECOWAS for an explanation after this incident. After

these explanations therefore, the president now considers the affair over and Cote d'Ivoire will continue to contribute to the search for peace in Liberia. Emmanuel Gore Bi Ta, this is the gist of the meeting between the Nigerian, ECOWAS, and ECOMOG delegation, as you earlier said, led by His Excellency Augustus Aikhomu, vice president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. [end recording]

That said, we will now ask listeners to listen to Nigerian Foreign Minister Mbu after the audience with the head of state:

[Begin Mbu recording in English fading into French translation] I think I will hand over very soon to the commander and the ECOWAS executive secretary. All I will say is that we have had a very cordial and brotherly meeting and my vice president has delivered a brotherly message of President Babangida, my president, to President Houphouet-Boigny, a founding father of ECOWAS, and we are very happy. But mistakes in human life do occur, and when they do occur, it does not mean a breach in goodwill, a breach in fraternal love between two brothers. You speak of an incident. There was an incident on which the field commander made a report to the president of the Republic. But what I would like to explain to you is that there is goodwill on both sides. When we know that goodwill exists, we are brothers, when there is an incident, when we make a mistake, we must admit it. We told President Houphouet-Boigny that we regretted what happened in Danane. [end recording]

Now, here is the statement of our foreign minister, Amara Essy:

[Begin Essy recording] After the Loguatu incident, I read a communique to inform the Ivorian people about what happened. There were no deaths as certain newspapers reported. Rather, people were injured. In addition, I sent a protest note on behalf of the president of the Republic to the ECOWAS chairman. That is very important because ECOMOG depends on ECOWAS. Then, after our visit to the area, we asked for explanations. At this meeting, the Nigerian foreign minister told you that this meeting was an opportunity to review not only issues on bilateral relations and Africa, but also all issues of interest to African countries. The ECOWAS secretary general spoke to us. The ECOMOG commander also told you what happened. We had explanations. They knew that on 27 February, when the incident took place, the field commander was not even in Liberia. He was in Accra. There was a military operation. There were human mistakes. The ECOMOG field commander and the secretary general regretted this incident. We take note, and for us, the incident is over. We are going to inform all our friends about the agreement reached at this meeting. The incident is over, and so there is no longer any difference between Cote d'Ivoire and anyone whatsoever. ECOMOG is an ECOWAS setup. The objective of ECOMOG is to implement the Yamoussoukro IV

Accords and we are all going to work together for peace to return to Liberia. [end recording]

Aikhomu Comments Before Departure

AB0603160793 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1230 GMT 6 Mar 93

[Text] The Nigerian vice president, Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, who led a delegation from Nigeria, the Economic Community of West African States, and the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG] to Cote d'Ivoire, left our country this morning for Nigeria. During his stay, Admiral Aikhomu held discussions with President Houphouet-Boigny and other people, including Prime Minister Alassane Dramane Ouattara. These discussions focused on relations of solidarity and friendship between Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria, and above all, ECOMOG's bombardment of an Ivorian village. The vice president was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Alassane Dramane Ouattara, and Interior Minister Emile Constant Bombet. Here is what Vice President Admiral Aikhomu said at Port-Bouet Airport as he left the country:

[Begin Aikhomu recording] I came here with a lot of optimism, having had the opportunity to meet President Houphouet-Boigny and to deliver President Babangida's message, I leave with the reassurance that relations between Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria are still very good in spite of the incident at the border between Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. I am returning home with a lot of hope. [end recording]

Ghana

Rawlings Receives Guinean Minister 5 Mar

AB0503151193 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] The president, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, today gave audience to the Guinean foreign minister, Mr. Ibrahim Sylla, at the Castle Osu. Details of the discussions were not made known.

Parliament Approves Nominations of More Ministers

AB0503150293 Dakar PANA in English 1026 GMT 4 Mar 93

[Text] Accra, 4 Mar (GNA/PANA)—Ghana's Parliament on Wednesday [3 March] approved the nominations of five ministers, including a woman, bringing to 11 the total number given the green light. These are: Dr Christine Amoako-Nuamah as minister of environment, science and technology, J.E. Ekuban, minister of roads and highways, Edward Salia, minister of trade and industry, Stephen Ayidiya, minister of lands and forestry and Sherif Gumah, Upper East regional minister.

The 200-member house last Thursday [25 February] accepted the nominations of six ministers including Mahama Idrissu, minister of defence, Kwesi Botchwey, minister of finance and economic planning, J.H. Owusu-Acheampong and Harry Sawyer, minister of education. The rest were George Akosa, minister of works and housing and Abdulahi Ibrahim, northern regional minister.

Cabinet appointments made so far by President Jerry Rawlings contains several ministers who had served at various times during the erstwhile Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) which he headed for 11 years.

The Parliament is still vetting a number of nominees including former foreign minister, Obed Asamoah. With the overwhelming majority of Rawlings' National Democratic Congress (NDC) in Parliament, nominees are not expected to face any difficulties.

All but two independent parliamentarians belong to a three-party alliance which supported Rawlings during his successful election in November 1992. Four parties whose candidates lost to Rawlings boycotted parliamentary elections in December because of alleged fraud in favour of Rawlings during the polls.

'Third Batch' Named

AB0503150793 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Text] Parliament has approved the third batch of nominees for ministerial appointments as submitted to the Appointment Committee of the House. They are Squadron Leader C.K. Sowu, Volta Regional minister, Dr. Ato Quarshie, Central Regional minister, and Mr. Isaac Kojo Adjei-Mensah, Brong Ahafo Regional minister. Mr. Kwame Peprah mines and energy minister [words indistinct], who was not mentioned in the report. His name was among the third batch.

A source close to the committee indicated that the final decision on Mr. Kwame Peprah will be taken after due consideration has been given to some documents required by members to enable the committee to properly assess him. The motion for the approval of Parliament was made by the chairman of the Appointment Committee, Dr. Mohamed ibn Chambas. It was seconded Mr. Opoku Preku, member for Abetifi.

Liberia

ULIMO Claims Successes, Final Gbarnga Assault 'Imminent'

AB0803132593 Paris AFP in French 1115 GMT 8 Mar 93

[Text] Monrovia, 8 Mar (AFP)—The United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia [ULIMO] claimed in Monrovia today that it had scored new military successes against its rival National Patriotic Front of

Liberia [NPFL], led by Charles Taylor, and announced an "imminent final assault" on Gbarnga (160 km north-east of Monrovia), the NPFL's headquarters. At a news conference ULIMO's military commander, Colonel Steven Dorley, appealed to inhabitants of Gbarnga and surrounding towns to leave the area immediately. He said that over the weekend Voinjama (260 km north of Monrovia) was recaptured from the NPFL, thus permitting ULIMO to control nearly the whole of Lofa County (northeast of the country), at the border with Sierra Leone.

Niger

Army Reaffirms Neutrality in Political Process

AB0703221693 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1900 GMT 7 Mar 93

[Statement issued by Niger Armed Forces on 7 March; read by Lieutenant Colonel Issa Amadou, chief of general staff—live or recorded]

[Text] 1. Faithful to their commitment made at the national conference and reiterated during the national seminar on the Niger Armed Forces [FAN] concerning the (?ongoing) democratic process, the FAN reaffirm their strict neutrality in the political debate underway in our country.

2. Consequently, the FAN will not be in any way subject to any manipulation from wherever and, still less, associated with fraudulent maneuvers.

3. The FAN, while expressing happiness about the social peace and serene climate that prevailed during the previous elections, calls for the common sense and patriotism of all the Niger people in order to ensure the success of the democratic process.

4. In any event, as democracy is not synonymous with anarchy, and in conformity with their mission, the FAN will not tolerate any breach of law and order. Thank you.

Cabinet Discusses Rebels, Accusations Against Premier

AB0703164493 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1200 GMT 5 Mar 93

[Report on the 4 March Cabinet meeting held in Niamey—read by government spokesman Albert Wright]

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held a meeting on 4 March under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Amadou Cheiffou. Government spokesman Albert Wright reports on the meeting:

[Begin recording] First, regarding the financial situation, the receipts accrued in February amounted to less than 3 billion CFA francs and could not cover the monthly payroll alone. [passage omitted] The government will

continue to meet its financial commitments vis-a-vis the workers on an ad hoc basis as more receipts accrue into the revenue office.

Second, the rebels and/or their allies have carried out two attacks. The first raid, launched on 27 February against the Fulani settlement at (Loukouma), 25 km east of (Ineka), in the Arrondissement de Ouallam, left one dead and four seriously injured among our men. The injured have since been evacuated to the Bani Bangou medical center. Meanwhile, the attackers left behind one dead and carried away two of their injured comrades. A document was found on the dead rebel showing that he was on a special mission sponsored by the Mali-based Popular Movement of the Azawad.

The second attack, on 28 February at about 1700, was against a vehicle carrying traders on their way back from Tchén-Tabaraden market, near (Amakai), 65 km north of Tahoua. Two traders were killed and another injured by rebels, who rode camels.

Third, the Council of Ministers expressed satisfaction with the the first round of the presidential elections, which went off without a hitch. The Council noted an improvement in the legislative elections regarding material arrangements. In particular, the fraud risks were minimized thanks to the various measures taken by the electoral commission, which deserves our wholehearted encouragement. According to many foreign observers, these measures have rendered the exercise virtually fraud-free. The only serious incidents were reported abroad, namely in Cotonou, where voters registered in Lomé wanted to vote in the Beninese capital in violation of the electoral code, a move that caused confusion at the Niger Embassy. The second incident was in Kano, where voters ransacked the polling station and smashed windows. Such behavior by Nigerois abroad tarnish the image of our country, especially because in Niger itself, the exercise took place in perfect calm, peace, and discipline, although it was the first test for our young democracy as the citizens were called upon to freely make use of their voting rights. This showed Nigerois' political maturity.

The Cabinet would like to take this opportunity to strongly urge all political parties taking part in the second round of the presidential elections to show their political maturity by making unimpassioned statements, displaying worthy behavior, and respecting the rules of the democratic game during their electoral campaign. The Council of Ministers was surprised by the president of the Supreme Court, who appealed to the prime minister, on the Voix du Sahel network news at 1300, to remain neutral in the electoral process. The Council also expressed surprise at accusations leveled by the spokesman for the National Movement of the Development Society-Nassara, who alleged that the prime minister was about to leave for a campaign tour of the interior in favor of the Democratic and Social Convention-Rahama [CDS-Rahama] and therefore called on

government to display openness, discretion, and neutrality vis-a-vis the political parties.

Regarding these charges, the Niger people observed government's behavior during the transition, especially during the previous elections, and can objectively judge for themselves and bear witness to the government's strict neutrality during the debate among the various political groups on the national scene. The fact that, at their request, leaders of political parties forming an alliance were received by the prime minister is nothing new. No one had ever before equated such a move with a show of partiality. Actually, the formation of two alliances by certain parties to assert common political views on certain national questions preceded the current electoral process.

The allegation that the prime minister is planning a campaign tour of the interior in favor of the CDS-Rahama is a mere figment of the imagination. The Supreme Court could simply have checked with the prime minister's office to find out that no visit had been planned to Agades or Tahoua. It is therefore most regrettable that people should make unfounded allegations that dent the great worldwide credit our country has enjoyed since the beginning of the hitherto smooth electoral process. Each Nigerois should contribute to the successful conclusion of our transition and make it an example for this African subregion. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Nigeria

Court Bars Government From Executing Army General

AB0503121093 Paris AFP in English 1407 GMT
4 Mar 93

[Text] Lagos, March 4 (AFP)—A Lagos High Court has prohibited the government from executing retired Major General Zamani Lekwot and six of his kinsmen, condemned to death last month by a special tribunal after bloody rioting.

The seven, all Christians, had been found guilty of culpable homicide by the tribunal set up in Kaduna, northern Nigeria, after communal and religious clashes at Zangon-Kataf in the largely Muslim Kaduna State, which left several thousand dead according to local sources.

The Lagos court, which Wednesday [3 March] made an order of interim injunction restraining the government from carrying out the tribunal's sentence, ruled that it was vital to preserve the constitutional right to life of the convicts.

The court order followed a suit filed last month by a Lagos lawyer, Mike Ozekhome, arguing that the trial and conviction of the men were unfair, illegal, barbaric and a violation of their fundamental right to life.

Many local and international human rights organizations, individuals and groups, particularly the Christian Association of Nigeria and the Nigeria Bar Association, have condemned both the conviction and a military decree, promulgated last January, which made it impossible for the convicts to appeal against their sentence in any court of law.

But the government seemed to have softened its stance a little on February 10 when the Chairman of the Transitional Council, Chief Ernest Shonekan, assured the European Community that government would give "due consideration" to the appeals for clemency for those convicted by tribunal over the riots. He gave the assurance when he received the Danish ambassador to Nigeria, Lars Blinkenberg. The ambassador, whose country currently holds the presidency of the European Community, had expressed concern over the death sentences.

Togo

Eyadema Receives Nigeria's Aikhomu, Other Officials

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[Excerpts] The head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, received an important delegation late this afternoon led by the Nigerian vice president, Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, the foreign minister, Matthew Mbu, and the executive secretary of the Economic Community of West African States, Mr. Abass Bundu. The delegation was introduced at the head of state's private residence by the Togolese prime minister, Joseph Kokou Koffigoh, who was accompanied by several members of the crisis government. Also included in the audience, which lasted the entire afternoon, were the Nigerian ambassador to Togo, His Excellency Vincent Okobi, and close aides of the head of state. [passage omitted]

After the discussions, Vice President Augustus Aikhomu was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Koffigoh and government members. [passage omitted] Before his departure, Adm. Aikhomu talked to reporters:

[Begin recording] [Aikhomu, in English, fading into French translation] Well, first and foremost, I am here to deliver a message of goodwill from my president, President General Ibrahim Babangida. In the note, he gives the reassurance of Nigerian recognition on the problems. [word indistinct] (?you) are facing here in Togo. You will agree with me that the relationship between our two countries has been of such a level that anything happening in Togo is always the concern of Nigeria, and anything happening in Nigeria is always the concern of Togo. So on that basis we had very useful discussions on the prevailing political problems in this country. These discussions allowed us to profile initiatives that might enable the democratization program you have in place to

be brought back on course. Those are the basic things we discussed.

[Unidentified reporter] For some time now, there have been rumors about a meeting to be held in Lagos on the Togolese crisis. Is it at Nigeria's initiative? Have all the parties concerned endorsed the initiative?

[Aikhomu] Well, there was talk of an international conference. I speak on behalf of the president and commander in chief of the Republic of Nigeria, (?you know, and) the military government. The present government in that country represents the interests of all Nigerians. So when I am here to speak on behalf of the president and government and people of Nigeria, I take it from that angle that we speak for all Nigerian citizens on this very issue.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President, for some time now, since last week to be exact, rumors have been circulating about the Togolese crisis to the effect that in a few days, sometime next week, talks will be held in Abuja, Nigeria, with all parties concerned in attendance. Can you confirm this?

[Aikhomu] Yes, that is why I have come on this fact-finding mission. It is true. On the initiative of our president, arrangements are being made to create a conducive atmosphere for a useful meeting to take place. So we are consulting with all concerned in order to create a conducive atmosphere for a roundtable conference so that we can try to discuss these issues beneficially [as heard] in Abuja. [end recording]

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